

Collecting Stories Project

Veteran Stories

In the early 1990s, the Museums at Lisle Station Park in Lisle, Illinois, began research on local World War II veterans. This was done in part for an exhibit to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United States' entry in to the war. Names of Lisle veterans were obtained from lists provided by the National Archives & Records Administration (NARA). Questionnaires were sent to as many veterans as addresses could be found.

Currently the Museum is gathering more information on local veterans. The Museum seeks information, copies of discharge papers and other documents, and photos on veterans from any war, but specifically World War II for an upcoming exhibit in 2025. Please consider completing this Military Service Questionnaire and returning it to the Museums at Lisle Station Park along with a photo of the veteran.

To return the questionnaire and photo, you can scan the pages, create a PDF and **email** to Grace Holzhaeuer at museum@lisleparkdistrict.org. Photos can be scanned and sent as JPGs. 300 dpi is preferred. You may also **mail** the form and photo to The Museums at Lisle Station Park, 1925 Ohio Street, Lisle, IL 60532. Thank you for your help in preserving the service and stories of Lisle Veterans!

Name of Person Completing This Form:

Contact Information of Person Completing Form (address, email, phone):

Are you including a photo of the veteran? Yes or No (Circle one). Please label the back of the photo with the veteran's name and date of photo.

Are you including any documents from the veteran's service? Please list what you are including:

Date of Completion: _____

Release Form

I, _____, am a participant in the Collecting Stories Project (hereinafter "CSP") of the Museums at Lisle Station Park. I understand the purpose is to collect stories of veterans and residents, as well as related materials such as photographs and manuscripts, for inclusion in the collections of the Museums at Lisle Station Park. These stories and related materials serve as a record of veterans' and residents' experiences and as a scholarly and educational resource. We acknowledge that your stories belong to you. By participating in the program and by signing this form you agree to share your unique intellectual property rights with the Museums at Lisle Station Park in a non-exclusive license agreement.

The stories and materials generated during the CSP may become part of the Museums' collection. The story may be made available for standard Museum uses, including but not limited to exhibits, research, interpretive programs, online formats, and other uses as deemed appropriate. I hereby release the Museums at Lisle Station Park from any and all claims and demands arising out of my submission to CSP.

Accepted and Agreed

Signature: _____

Date (month/day/year): _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Next of Kin's: Name & Address:



Military Service Questionnaire

Please complete as much of this form as possible. These are the most important pieces of data you can gather to begin a research project. Some of this information can be found on the Separation/Discharge Paper, in family sources, World War I Burial File, and the Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF). Attach additional blank sheet if needed. Please cite the source where you obtained each piece of information. You may need to refer to that source later in your research.

Name of Veteran: _____

If you are researching one person for multiple wars, be sure to fill out a different form for each war. This allows you to keep track of changes in service number, sometimes military branch, service details, and more.

WWI _____ **WWII** _____ **Korea** _____ **Vietnam** _____

Federal Civilian Employee _____

If you have someone who was a civilian employee (war correspondent, etc.) you can use parts of this form to document what you know. They will have an employee file rather than a military service file. There may also be information in the same places we find military records.

Biographical Information

Full Name _____

Date and place of birth _____

Dates of Lisle Residency and address at time of service:

Name of mother, date & place of birth & death



Biographical Information Continued....

Name of father, date & place of birth & death

Name of spouse, date & place of birth, marriage, & death

Names of siblings and years of births (include sisters' married names)

Address in 1940

Address in 1945

Pre-military service educational information. Include date of high school graduation.

Date and place of death

Location of burial



Prior Service History

Complete this if your veteran served prior to the war you are researching.

Serial Number and military branch _____

(Some men who flew for the Marine Corps were first inducted into the Navy, then discharged and re-enlisted in the Marine Corps. These individuals will have a different service number and military branch.)

Date and place of enlistment

Address at enlistment

Date and place (Training Facility/Camp) of active duty status

Ranks and all units/ships/stations in which veteran served with dates.

All Military Occupational Specialties (MOS)

Service Schools Attended with location of school and dates

Overseas service for prior enlistment?



Service History

Serial Number and military branch _____

(Some men who flew for the Marine Corps were first inducted into the Navy, then discharged and re-enlisted in the Marine Corps. These individuals will have a different service number and military branch.)

Date and place of enlistment

Address at enlistment

Date and place (Training Facility/Camp) of active duty status

Ranks and all units/ships/stations in which veteran served with dates.

All Military Occupational Specialties (MOS)

Service Schools Attended with location of school and dates



Overseas Service History

Campaigns and Battles _____

Ships on which he served with dates _____

Medals, Awards, & Citations _____

Wounds received with date and place. If treated in a hospital, name/number of hospital with location.

Additional service details not mentioned above



Death or MIA Status During Service

Was soldier ever declared Missing In Action, even by accident? Provide details.

Date, place, and cause of death

Date and place of temporary burial(s). List dates of disinterment and movement to new location(s).

Date and place of final burial. List date of disinterment and mode of transportation to final burial site and other details.

What other information regarding death or MIA status do you have?



What Documents Do You Have?

These are only a few of the possible records you might have at home or uncovered through research.

- ___ Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) also known as the service file
- ___ Separation and Discharge Papers (if he survived the war)
- ___ World War I Burial File if he died in service or is MIA from World War I
- ___ Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF) if he died in service or is MIA from World War II, Korea or Vietnam
- ___ Headstone Application or Internment Records from the VA
- ___ Draft Registration Cards (does not prove service but provides biographical information)
- ___ State Level WWI or WWII Bonus Applications or Statement of Service Cards (Not all states have these applications)
- ___ Newspaper articles documenting service (sometimes these contain errors or details change when the war ends)
- ___ Aviation Cadet or Naval Flight Training Program Records (If trained as a pilot, even if he washed out.)
- ___ Company Morning Reports (Army & Air Corps/Army Air Forces/Air Force)
- ___ Muster Rolls (Marine Corps and Navy)
- ___ Unit Level Records (often from NARA College Park). Examples below are not everything possible. You can also search Presidential Libraries, State & Local Historical Societies, County Offices, Military Branch Specific museums/archives Libraries, etc. **Records and photos can be found anywhere.**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ___ Unit Histories (all levels) | ___ Missing Air Crew Reports |
| ___ Unit Photographs | ___ Chaplain Records |
| ___ Journals | ___ Hospital / Medical Records |
| ___ Deck Logs | ___ Maps |
| ___ Mission Reports | |
| ___ After Action Reports | |
| ___ Air Force Accident Reports | |



What Documents Do You Have?

- ___ Family stories (are these written down and cited as to who told the story and when?)
- ___ Family photographs
- ___ Diaries
- ___ Letters
- ___ Other documents held within the family (list them)
- ___ Genealogy documents (list the ones you have)
- ___ Cemetery information
- ___ Local monuments to wars with names of fallen and/or those who served. Bricks for memorials or at museums for service members.
- ___ VFW, American Legion, Veteran organizations that might have information

Additional Stories or Notes About This Veteran

Use this space to document stories you have heard or other information you have not mentioned in this questionnaire. Write down all conflicting stories/information you know and cite where it came from.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This questionnaire was created by Jennifer Holik of the WWII Research & Writing Center. You can learn more about military research by visiting the WWII Research & Writing Center at <https://wwiirwc.com>. Explore online classes and all Jennifer's books at the Ancestral Souls Wisdom School <https://ancestralsoulswisdomschool.com>

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