

A Veteran's Story

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<http://aveteransstory.weebly.com/index.html>

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Joined the 315th Engineer Construction Group Headquarters at Harrisburg in the Active Reserves.

In 1957 my duties at work I retired as a Captain.

My committees as such:

- board member PAWA
- president
- and am still on the board

For seven years I was a board member of PSIMES (Penn State Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Society).

As president of PAWA I was a member of the Pennsylvania Transportation meeting on changing the auto and truck inspection rules.

Occupation was president of Chelsea Auto Parts Company and president of S&L Automotive Warehouse and president of Chelsea Auto Parts of California.

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Education: Harrisburg City Schools

1942: Penn State, Engineering, one year

1942: Enlisted at Penn State in Army

1946: Returned to Penn State, graduated in 1949 (with) Industrial Engineering degree – honors Phi Eta Sigma

Military Service:

- 1943 Ft. McClellan, basic training – 13 weeks.
- Sent to ASTP at Hope College, Holland, Michigan for one semester.
- All members were shipped then to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin to the 76th Infantry Division.
- Division sent next to England in 1944, then after two weeks shipped to France and immediately were sent to Luxembourg.
- After the Battle of the Bulge I was transferred back to the US to be in the Navy as Seaman First Class with a great many Navy points.

- In 1946 I was released as a civilian.
- At Penn State U (University) entered into the senior ROTC and graduated at a Lt. in the Corps of Engineers, then back to Harrisburg.
- Graduation was in 1949, degree in Industrial Engineering.

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-I spent a summer at Ft. Belvoir in learning various studies as bridge building, explosives and map making.

-When the Battle of the Bulge was about over and we were getting ready to go to Germany I received a note from Sheaf (SHAEF) sending me back to the US. I was out in the forest and I picked up my gear and got a lift on a truck to go to the city of Luxembourg. I slept in a US headquarters. From there I got on a truck to Reims. There I got on a train to Paris. There I asked many questions from soldiers going back and was told about train to England and London. There I asked questions about a Replacement Depot. One being in Birmingham. I again got on a train to the Depot. (All this time I had no funds but the conductors never asked me for any money.) I would find a mess hall and go back to the Mess Sgt. and not only fed me but also I asked for some sandwiches to take along. I only had a problem was London.

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-There I went to a Red Cross unit but without funds I was fortunate that a Red Cross worker paid for my sandwich and coke. I was out of place all the service people were cleaned and pressed uniforms (I had a ripped trousers and a greasy field jacket). I ate and left quickly.

-In the Replacement Depot the building was an old English Barracks. They gave me English trousers. I stayed there for a month waiting for a ship back to the US. To keep myself busy I was at the pistol range with a British soldier from early morning until dawn. Each soldier fired one clip with the 45 automatic. Never once did I have to replace the target. I went by train to Scotland and there we went to the US.

-I arrived at Norfolk, VA and as we walked off the ship, every one was given a qt. of milk.

-I was sent to the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. There I was examined and I was amazed that I lost 40 lb.

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Page 5: Military Service (cont'd)

-I was enlisted in the Navy and shipped to Maryland to be discharged.

-There I was back to the Navy and after I found out that my representative in Harrisburg kept my name in his files and I imagined that he needed another name to send in to the Navy. There is a primary name, 2nd name and third name. That was four years ago (I had no idea would I ever be on his list. I found out that by being a nominee. The rules stated that I had to be in the US). Then one of the people before me was selected, I then was sent to the regular Navy. At that time there was a need for Destroyer sailors. An old Bosum (Boatswain) talked to me and I told him that I waited for five days as the destroyer circled round and round our ship. I mentioned to him that I had a senior lifesaving certificate and would apply for underwater sea duty. He looked at me and said that I just came out of the worst battle of the war. His next question was where is your home? I said Harrisburg, he said I'm sending you to Mechanicsburg NSD.

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-There I went to the Depot in 1945 and happened that the Commodore saw that I was the only one that had ribbons. He must of checked on my record and found out that I wanted to go to the Academy. In 1945, he sent me to Camp Peary in Virginia. There I did not have to take tests as I had enough credits but sat in on all the classes. But what they did to send me away every day I had to be dilated my eyes. Then every other day they checked my teeth for example under or over bite.

-The Commandant had me send to Washington DC to contact representatives who had the ability to send me to the Academy. (All had the same answer, we are saving it for my friends.)

-The Commandant then told me I had plenty of points. VJ was over so he said please go. Then I went back to Penn State.