Freeport’s
Korean War Dead
1950-1955

Edited and Researched
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Revised October 24, 2017
Wilbur Lester Bond

BORN: August 5, 1929 (Bellmore, NY)
DIED: July 21, 1950
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action, small arms fire
WHERE: Taejon, South Korea (Aide Station)

BRANCH: US Army—Infantry
RANK: Corporal, E-4

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Field Wireman; 24th Signal Company; 304th Signal Battalion; 24th Infantry Division; RA12259350 / MOS: 4641

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
2040 Wellwood Avenue, Farmingdale, NY 11735-1211
Section O, Site 35617 (interred May 26, 1951)

LAST RESIDENCE: 79 Raynor Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Baptist

OCCUPATION: Military (enlisted at the age of 17)

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes, attended FHS but did not graduate

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Bond died at the age of 20. He was originally reported missing in action. Bond was awarded the Purple Heart.
Sources:


Corp. Wilbur L. Bond
Burial in Pinelawn

Funeral services will be conducted in the Richard G. Hungerford Funeral parlors, 30 Bedell st., tomorrow at 3 p.m., for Corp. Wilbur L. Bond, who was killed in action in Taejon, Korea, on July 21, last, and whose body has been brought home. Burial, with full military honors, will follow at the Pinelawn National Cemetery. Saturday at 9:30 a.m., William Clinton Story Post, A.L., will conduct their rites in the funeral parlors tomorrow night.

Corp. Bond was the son of Mrs. Vera Reid Ennis, 79 Raynor st. He was born in Bellmore and was 20 years old at the time he met his death. He attended the Archer st., and junior high schools and enlisted in the Army as soon as he was 17 years old. He was a member of the Signal Corps of the 24 Infantry Division and was one of the first to go into action when hostilities opened in Korea. Surviving are his mother and a sister, Miss Catherine Ennis.

The Rev. Louis H. Losch, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. Albert E. Cruch, of the Union Congregational Church, Richmond Hill, will officiate at the service.
Ronald Arthur Canfield

BORN: August 9, 1931
DIED: December 8, 1951

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action, shell fragments (neck and back)
WHERE: Kumhina, North Korea

BRANCH: US Army, Corps of Engineers
RANK: Corporal, E-4

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 939th Engineering, Aviation Group, 630th Lt. Engineers Co.
RA12324591 / MOS: 3230 Survey Team

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: St. Ann’s Episcopal Church
Church Cemetery, Sayville, NY
Section 3, Plot, 9 Grave 10 (Interred March 4, 1952)

LAST RESIDENCE: 251 N. Brookside Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Episcopalian
OCCUPATION: Student
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes, graduated FHS, Class of 1949

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: No
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: No

NOTES: Canfield died at the age of 20. He was awarded the Purple Heart.
Sources:

Korean War 1950 to 1955

James B. Cipriano

BORN: July 30, 1930 (Rockville Centre, NY)
DIED: June 3, 1952

CAUSE OF DEATH: Died non-combat, truck accident in Europe
WHERE: Camp Roeder, Salzburg, Austria

BRANCH: US Army
RANK: Sergeant, E-5

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Company B, 305th Infantry Regiment, 88th Infantry Division

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, NY
Section O, Site 35514 (Interred June 27, 1952)

LAST RESIDENCE: 180 Bedell Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Catholic
OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes. He attended Our Holy Redeemer Catholic school and Freeport High School but did not graduate.

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: No
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: No

NOTES: Cipriano enlisted when he was 17 years old and died at the age of 21 when the truck he was riding in turned over.
Requiem Mass Tomorrow For Sergeant Cipriano

The body of Sgt. James Cipriano, son of Mrs. Estelle Cipriano, 180 Bedell Street, who was killed in an accident in Austria on June 3, has been returned to America. A requiem mass will be celebrated in Our Holy Redeemer R.C. Church tomorrow at 10 o'clock. Burial will follow in the Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale.

Sgt. Cipriano was born in Rockville Centre, 21 years ago and had lived in Freeport 17 years. He was graduated from Our Holy Redeemer School and attended Freeport High School until he was 17 years old when he enlisted in the Army. He received his training at Fort Dix, N.J., and had been abroad two years. He was fatally injured when a truck on which he was riding turned over.

Surviving are his mother, a brother, Pasculo, and two sisters, June and Anne.
JAMES B. CIPRIANO
NEW YORK
SGT
310 INFANTRY
JULY 20, 1930
JUNE 3, 1952
Clifford Herbert Craw

BORN: October 31, 1931 (Hempstead, NY)

DIED: August 31, 1950

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Combat, small arms fire

WHERE: Hyonpung, South Korea (Nangton River)

BRANCH: US Army-Infantry

RANK: Corporal, E-4

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Light Weapons Infantry, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
                        Farmingdale, NY
                        Section R, Site 3128 (Interred April 22, 1954)

LAST RESIDENCE: 179 Commercial Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY (Sister's address)

RELIGION: Episcopal

OCCUPATION:

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Unknown

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Craw died at the age of 19. He was awarded the Purple Heart
Funeral Service Held
For Corp. Clifford Craw

The Rev. Reginald H. Scott, rector of the Transfiguration Episcopal Church, officiated at services in the Chester A. Fulton & Son, Inc., Parlors, Saturday morning for Corp. Clifford H. Craw, who was killed in action on August 31, 1950.

Born in Hempstead, on October 31, 1931, Craw entered the service when he was 17 years old and met his death a month after arriving in Korea in an engagement at the Nangton River. He leaves a sister, Mrs. Nellie Balchl, 179 Commercial street.

MORE KOREA DEAD LISTED
Army Had Classified 44 Men as Missing More Than Year

WASHINGTON, April 22 (AP)—The Army announced today the names of forty-four additional men determined to have died in Korea. All had previously been classified for more than a year as missing.

The new list included:

NEW YORK
CRAW, Cpl. Clifford Herbert, brother of Mrs. Nellie Balchl, Freeport, L. I.
JOHNSON, Sgt. 1/c William Felix, half-brother of Mrs. Ora Dawson, 964 Tinton Avenue, Bronx.

NEW JERSEY
DECICCO, Pfc. Leo Nunziio, brother of Miss Josephine Decicco, Hoboken.

CONNECTICUT
BOTHWELL, 1st Lieut. Glenn R., husband of Mrs. Grace A. Bothwell, Greenwich.
Felix Garland

BORN: March 12, 1928 (Pardee, VA)
DIED: September 5, 1950
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action, small arms fire
WHERE: Pusan Perimeter, South Korea
BRANCH: US Army-Infantry
RANK: Private First Class, E-3
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division
RA12291321 / MOS: 0522 (Duty Soldier)

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, NY
Section O, Site 36336 (Interred June 16, 1951)

LAST RESIDENCE: 36 East Merrick Road, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Baptist
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: He attended Cleveland Avenue School.

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Garland was a member of an airborne unit that had been transferred from Japan. He enlisted in 1947 and died at the age of 21. Garland was awarded the Purple Heart.


Korean War 1950 to 1955

Norbert Francis Holter

BORN: March 20, 1932
DIED: February 25, 1953
CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed In Action, artillery fire
WHERE: Hill 15 (Detroit), "Operation Charlie," South Korea
BRANCH: US Marine Corps.-Infantry-(Browning Automatic Rifle)
RANK: Private First Class, E-2
OUTFIT OR UNIT: 5th Marine Regiment, F Company, 2nd Battalion,
1st Marine Division, MC1214513, / MOS: 3011
CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: St Charles Catholic Cemetery
Farmingdale, NY
Section 43, Site 186, Grave 16 (Interred April 3, 1953)
LAST RESIDENCE: 171 Jay Street, Freeport, Long Island, NY
RELIGION: Catholic
OCCUPATION: Unknown
ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes, graduated FHS, Class of 1951

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes
NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Holter, known as “Norbie” to his friends, died at the age of 20. He was awarded the Purple Heart.
Freeport Boy Killed Fighting in Korea; Two More Wounded

Norbert Holter Victim Of Red Artillery Fire; Was Popular Student

The tragedy of the "police action" that has been going on so long in Korea was brought home during the past week when the names of three Freeport boys, all Marines appeared on casualty lists. One was killed in action and two wounded, one of whom is reported in serious condition.

Mrs. Rose Holter, 111 Jay Street, received word that her son, Pfc. Norbert F. Holter, was killed by Communist artillery fire on Detroit Hill February 15. He was formerly a member of the elite Marine Honor Guard in Washington. Norby Holter, as he was familiarly known, was a star athlete and honor student at Freeport High School from which he graduated in June, 1951. He played football for two years and as a senior was a guard on the undefeated and untied eleven of 1951.

The next spring he played on the first "baserun" to be sponsored by the school which finished second in the Metropolitan La Crosse League. He also was a member of the track team for one season.

Holter, who had been fighting in Korea since December 5 last, was serving as a BAR-man, an automatic rifleman, with the First Marine Division's Fifth Marines. He enlisted in August, 1951. A moment of silence was observed in his memory at P.H.S. Friday morning.

Pfc. William D. Rockwell, 21, suffered shrapnel wounds while in action on February 22. He was graduated from Freeport High School in 1950, enlisted the following January, and landed in Korea on February 9 last. From a hospital ship in Inshon Harbor, he wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Rockwell: "Feeling okay, just waiting for the wounds to heal."

The third casualty is Pfc. Carey F. McDaniel, 18, son of Mrs. Catherine Fischer, 292 North Main street.
Winter of 1952
Korean War 1950 to 1955

Edward Carl Koenke Jr.

BORN: March 9, 1930 (Philadelphia, PA)

DIED: September 28, 1950

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action, foxhole was blown-up

WHERE: Seoul, South Korea

BRANCH: US Army-Infantry

RANK: Private 1st Class, E-3

OUTFIT OR UNIT: Light Weapons Infantry, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
                        Farmingdale, NY
                        Section O, Site 36336 (Interred June 20, 1951)

LAST RESIDENCE: 12 Johnson Place, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Presbyterian

OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes, graduated FHS, Class of 1948

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: Koenke died at the age of 30. He was awarded the Purple Heart.
Sources:

Personal communications with his brother Donald Koenke and friend/classmate Ed Slane by Don Schultz.
Robert E. McAllister

BORN: November 12, 1931 (Philadelphia, PA)

DIED: March 27, 1953

CAUSE OF DEATH: Killed in Action, small arms fire

WHERE: Outpost Vegas Complex, Outpost Reno, South Korea

BRANCH: US Marine Corps.– Infantry

RANK: Private 1st Class, E-2

OUTFIT OR UNIT: 5th Marine Regiment, F Company, 5th Battalion, 1st Marine Division, MC 1168930 / MOS:3011 (Rifleman)

CEMETERY OR MEMORIAL: Long Island National Cemetery
                            Farmingdale, NY
                            Section Q, Site 1166 (Interred June, 22, 1953)

LAST RESIDENCE: 423 Southside Avenue, Freeport, Long Island, NY

RELIGION: Lutheran

OCCUPATION: Unknown

ATTENDED FREEPORT SCHOOLS: Yes, graduated FHS, Class of 1950

NAME APPEARS ON LIBRARY MEMORIAL PLAQUE: Yes

NAME APPEARS ON AMERICAN LEGION MONUMENT: Yes

NOTES: McAllister, known as “Lonnie” died at the age of 21. He was awarded the Purple Heart.
Sources:

“Funeral Rites Monday For Robert McAllister.” The Leader. 18 June 1953, p. 4.


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Funeral Rites Monday
For Robert McAllister

Funeral services will be held in
the Chester A. Fulton & Son par-
lors, 49 West Merrick road, Mon-
day at 2 o’clock for Pfc. Robert E.
McAllister, son of Mr. and Mrs.
Robert McAllister, 423 Southside
avenue, who was killed in action at
Vegas Hill, Korea, on March 27.
The Rev. Eugene K. Strebler, pas-
tor of Christ Lutheran Church, will
officiate. Burial will follow in the
Long Island National Cemetery,
Pinelawn.

Besides his parents, Pfc. McAl-
llister leaves a sister, Joan B. Mc-
Allister.
Robert McAllister Is Killed
13 Days After Reaching Korea

Marine Pfc. Robert McAllister, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. McAllister, 473 Southside avenue, was killed in action in Korea on March 27, only 13 days after arriving in Korea, his parents have been notified by the Defense Department. The telegram indicated no details concerning his death were available.

Following receipt of the message, two letters, one written the day before his death, were received by his parents. In the letter his outfit was being evacuated from the front line to a reserve area where he would be safe. However, it was at this time that the heaviest attack on the part of the Chinese Red was launched at Vegas Hill and this tremendous effort of his family was to help stem the onslaught or killed in the reserve area.

Pfc. McAllister played baseball at Freeport High School during his four years and was outfielder on the successful nine of 1950. He was graduated in June of this year and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on January 19, 1951 at which time seven other P.H.S. graduates, all athletes, joined up. They comprised Dominic Massini, a neighbor and captain of the 1949 Red Devils, and

Pfc. Robert McAllister Is Killed in Korea
(Continued from Page 1)

David Jones, first baseman, also Salvatore Alcascal, Vincent Grasso, Carmen Chimer; William Rockwell, recently seriously wounded and on his way back to the states and Thomas Mallonowski.

Jones was on the same transport on which McAllister made the trip to Korea. Alcascal and Grasso have returned while Chimer and Mallonowski are at Quantico, Mass.

Following his enlistment, McAllister received his basic training at Parris Island, S.C., and was graduated as a member of the honor platoon, March 16, 1951. He was next sent to Camp LeJeune, S.C., and in September, 1951, as a member of the honor platoon, was assigned to the U.S.S. Cambria, A.P.A. 36 and taken on a Mediterranean Cruise, returning to the States March of last year and assigned to Camp LeJeune. From there he was transferred to Camp Pendleton, Cal., in January last and sent overseas, arriving in Korea on March 14 as a rifleman in the First Division, Fifth Regiment. Second Battalion of the "Chinks" preferred to fight at Marines.

His parents received four letters from him, descriptive of the fight there. In one he wrote that the fought all night, slept all day and the "Chinks" preferred to fight at night.

He also wrote to C. Overton Tormer, coach of the 1950 P.H.S. baseball squad, that "some of us are going to try to work in a little spring training just to keep our hands in."

Pfc. McAllister was born in Philadelphia and was 21 years old on November 12 last. The family came to Freeport about 10 years ago. Besides his parents he leaves a sister Joan B., 16 years old.
About the Soldiers’ Project, Regina G. Feeney

In 2005, the Freeport Memorial Library received a grant to digitize its historical collection of local newspapers. This $23,000 gift made electronically accessible and fully searchable six newspapers dating from 1895 to 1921. One of the first questions this project helped answer was, “Who was Henry Theodore Mohr?” A stone and bronze plaque bearing his name has rested on the lawn of the Library for more than 70 years. The newspaper project uncovered the story of a Freeport volunteer fireman who was the first Freeporter to die in combat during WWI and who became the namesake of the local VFW. Articles from the early 1920s chronicle the fundraising efforts to construct the Library and a WWI memorial. A movement to combine these two initiatives began to emerge. Some members of the American Legion and family members of those who died during The Great War were very much against the combination library and war memorial. The father of another fallen soldier Theodore deKruijff wrote a letter to the Nassau County Review in which he said, “In a few years the so-called memorial will simply be a ‘public library’ and will not be known by any other name.” I began to wonder if there was something to Mr. deKruijff’s prediction. Did Freeporters know that the Library was the first War Memorial Library in New York State? Did we know anything about the names of 140 soldiers on bronze tablets in the Library?

Using the newspapers and other Library and Historical Society resources I began researching Freeport’s soldiers from the Civil War to WWI. In 2008, I received a call from former Freeporter Don Schultz who was in the Army during the Korean War. Living in Jacksonville, FL, Don called and told me of his memories about the WWII Honor Roll outside the Library. I told Don, about my project and he took on the monumental task of researching Freeporters who died in WWII, as well as the Korean and Vietnam wars. Since 2008, Don has enlisted over 40 volunteers throughout the US and overseas to help research the soldiers’ biographies and document their final resting places. We have uncovered a soldier buried without a headstone, soldiers with broken or unreadable markers, and soldiers and a nurse whose names were omitted from the original memorials. Information about Freeport’s fallen can be found online at: http://freeportlibrary.info/freeport-history. If you have any additional information about any of these heroes, please contact the Freeport Memorial Library at frreference@freeportlibrary.info.