

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc.
Shelby, Iowa

Dear Family Member or Contributor,

Thank you for your interest in sharing a Veteran's Life Story with the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc. Your willingness to preserve the memories of someone who served our nation is a meaningful gift—one that helps us honor their courage, their character, and the legacy they leave behind.

Enclosed is the Veteran's Life Story Questionnaire, created to help you share the details, memories, and moments that shaped your veteran's life. Please complete as much or as little as you wish; every memory and detail helps bring their story to life and ensures it becomes a lasting tribute on our website.

To help us accurately preserve your veteran's information, please print clearly, as it truly makes a difference in honoring their story with care and respect. We also ask that all photos submitted be clear copies, as originals cannot be returned.

Once your submission is reviewed and meets the established requirements (see the Eligibility Guidelines), your veteran's story will be added to our website—built to house the histories and memories of our honored veterans. When your story is published, you will receive a QR Code that allows you to instantly view the stories on our site. This QR Code can be shared with family and friends across the country and around the world, ensuring your veteran's legacy reaches all who wish to remember and celebrate their life.

Your participation supports not only the preservation of these stories but also the continued development of the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park. Together, we can ensure that the sacrifices and service of our veterans are never forgotten.

With gratitude,

The Committer for the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc.

Larry Manz – (712) 544-2151

Joel Wahling – (712) 307-0750

Chris Evans – (712) 579-5098

Amy Hursey – (712) 579-1749

Jackie Hursey – (402) 650-1948

John Evans

All donations are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to:

The Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc.

505 Center Street, Box 120

Shelby, IA 51570

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park – Shelby, Iowa

A Veteran's Life Story

Welcome!

Thank you for helping preserve the legacy of a veteran connected to our community. Shelby Veterans Memorial Park will honor not only the service of our veterans, but the stories, memories, and personal histories that shaped their lives. By completing this Life Story, you are contributing to a lasting tribute that future generations will learn from and cherish.

We invite you to share the moments that bring this veteran's journey to life. Add additional pages if needed. Photos of the soldier in uniform, snapshots with their buddies, images of the places they served, and treasured family pictures all help paint a fuller picture of who they were. Every detail you provide helps ensure their courage, character and legacy will never be forgotten. Share as much or as little as you feel comfortable; even small memories can help paint a meaningful picture of your veteran's life.

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park Committee

Please print clearly; it truly makes a meaningful difference in helping us honor your veteran's story.

1. Veteran Information

Full Name (as served): *Required.* _____

Nickname(s) _____

Date of Birth: *Required.* _____

Place of Birth: *Required.* _____

Connection to Shelby, Iowa (check all that apply): *Required.*

Born in Shelby

Lived in Shelby

Attended Shelby/Shelby-Tenant/Tenant/AHST/AHSTW School

Family connection

Other: _____

Date of Death: *Required.* _____

Place of Death: *Required.* _____

2. Military Service Details

Branch of Service: *Required.*

- Air Force Army Coast Guard Marine Corps
 National Guard Navy Space Force

Rank(s) Held: *Required.* _____

Service Dates - From: *Required.* _____ To: *Required.* _____

Type of Discharge: *Required.* Honorable Dishonorable

Were you drafted? *Required.* Yes No

Where did you go to basic training? *Required.* _____

What military action(s) were you in? *(Please include years.): Required.* _____

Primary Duty Stations / Bases. *(Please include years.):* _____

U.S. Bases Served. *(Please include years.):* _____

Foreign Bases Served. *(Please include years.):* _____

Units, Divisions, or Ships Served On. (Please include years.): _____

Deployments / Combat Zones. (Please include years.): _____

Awards, Medals, Honors or Citations. (Please include years.): _____

Commendations or Notable Achievements. (Please include years.): _____

3. Notable Experiences During Service

Stories or Events They Were Known For or Often Talked About: _____

Leadership Roles or Responsibilities: _____

Friendships or Influential People Met: _____

Challenges Faced: _____

Acts of Service or Heroism: _____

4. Post-Military Life

Transition Out of the Military (year, circumstances): *Required.* _____

Civilian Occupation(s): _____

Education or Training After Service: _____

Community Involvement or Volunteer Work: _____

Hobbies or Interests: _____

Organizations or Clubs (e.g., VFW, American Legion): _____

5. Early Life

Parents' Names: _____

Siblings: _____

Other Significant Family Members: _____

Childhood Home(s): _____

Schools Attended: _____

Early Interests, Hobbies, or Jobs: _____

5. Family Life

Spouse/Partner(s): _____

Where/How Did You Meet Your Spouse/Partner? _____

Where/When Did You Get Married? _____

Names of Children and Stepchildren. _____

Names of Grandchildren and Step-grandchildren. _____

Other Significant Family Members:

6. Legacy & Reflections

What did their service mean to them? Tell us about lessons learned. _____

What were they known for in their family? Did they have any favorite sayings? _____

7. Misc. Information To Share: _____

8. Eligibility Requirements. At the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, we are dedicated to honoring the brave men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces and have a connection to Shelby, Iowa. Our mission is to preserve their sacrifices. We provide a respectful space where visitors can pay tribute to our veterans, fostering a sense of pride and appreciation

within our community. Join us in the recognition of their valor, dedication and enduring contributions to our nation.

8.1. Individuals honored on this website must have a connection to Shelby, Iowa, by meeting at least one of the following requirements:

- Individual currently lives in / has lived in Shelby, Iowa.
 - Individual graduated from the Shelby, Tennant, Shelby-Tenant, AHST or the AHSTW Schools OR attended one of these schools through their junior high and high school years.
-

8.2. If at least one of the above Eligibility Requirements is met, individuals also must meet one or more of the additional requirements listed below to be included in the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park website. Individuals:

- Must have served honorably in any official branch of the United States Armed Forces and have been discharged or released under conditions by means of an honorable discharge.
- Completed at least one enlistment as a member of the selected reserve or, in the case of an officer, completed the initial obligated service as a member of the selected reserve.
- Died while a member of the active component or selected reserve.
- Retired from an active component or selected reserve.
- Must have a Department of Defense DD-214 form.

Proof of Service

The following documentation will be accepted as proof of service:

- DD-Form 214 (Active Component or Selected Reserves).
 - NGB Form 22 or NGB Form 55 (National Guardsman).
 - Memorandum Eligibility for Retired Pay (20 Year Letter).
 - Certificate of Honorable Discharge.
 - Verification of Eligibility of Burial in National Veterans Cemetery.
 - Memorandum, Notification of Eligibility for Retired Pay at Age 60.
 - DD Form 2 (Retired Identification Card).
 - Documentation from the National Archives.
-

9. Supporting Materials Checklist

Please submit only clear copies of photos, *as we are unable to return original images.*

- Service photos
 - Photos with fellow soldiers
 - Photos of places served
 - Family photos
-

Submitter Information

Your Name (Please print): _____

Relationship to Veteran: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Permission to Publish:

- I grant Shelby Veterans Memorial Park permission to publish this story, photos, and materials. (See full Information Release and Authorization for Veterans Stories below.)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc.

Information Release & Authorization for Use of Veteran Stories

By sending us information, photos, or stories about a veteran, the submitter (hereinafter “you”) of this information agrees to the following:

- **Permission to Share** — You give Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc. permission to use the information you submit on our website and in materials that honor veterans.
- **Right to Submit** — You confirm that you own the information and photos you send, or you have permission from the person who does.
- **Do Not Submit Original Photos or Documents** — Only submit clear copies of photos, as we are unable to return original images.
- **Editing for Clarity** — We may edit your story for clarity or length, but we will keep the meaning and spirit of the story.

- **Privacy Protection** — We will not publish private contact information unless you clearly tell us we may.
- **Removal Request** — You may ask us at any time to correct or remove a story, and we will do our best to honor your request.
- **Contribution Requirement** — Participation requires a \$500 contribution, which will go directly toward funding the monument. This contribution supports the creation and long-term preservation of the memorial.

By submitting a story, you agree to these terms and allow us to share the veteran’s story as part of our mission to honor those who served.

Stories may be uploaded to our website on the Stories Page at www.shelbyveteransmemorial.com.

Stories and donations may also be sent to:

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc. **or**
c/o Chris Evans, Treasurer
505 Center Street
P.O. Box 120
Shelby, Iowa 51570

Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc.
c/o Jackie Hursey, President
201 East Street
Shelby, Iowa 51570
(402) 650-1948

The Committee for the Shelby Veterans Memorial Park, Inc. thanks you for your support.

Larry Manz, Joel Wahling, Amy Hursey, Chris Evans, Jackie Hursey and John Evans
