

Researching Korean & Vietnam War Veterans

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Between 1950 and 1975, more than 90,000 United States military personnel died in conflicts in Southeast Asia. Learning more about these conflicts and the people who served in them can provide interesting insights into family trees. Because the records relating to these conflicts are relatively recent in genealogical terms, there are more electronic records than books available. Many of those books that are available can be found in our military section **aisle 10B**.

When researching a person who died while serving in the military, keep in mind some practical considerations of military service. In most cases, only federal government records will be available. For example, death certificates are state records and in Ohio they were not issued for deceased soldiers returned home for burial. Federal Casualty Lists served as death records. When looking for obituaries, remember that they may have appeared in the newspaper several weeks after the date of death to allow time for the body to travel back to the United States. The same is true of funeral records.

Getting Started

- *A Short History of the Korean War* (1988) **History & Humanities 951.9 St874s**
- *In Mortal Combat* (1991) **History & Humanities 951.9042 T647i**

Electronic Resources

- *State-level lists of Casualties from the Korean War (1951-1957) and Vietnam Conflict (1956-)* <http://www.archives.gov/research/korean-war/casualty-lists/index.html>
- *Electronic Records of the Korean and Vietnam Conflict Casualties Prologue* (2000) <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2000/spring/korean-and-vietnam-casualties.html>
- *Korean War Project* <http://www.kwp.org/>.
- *Korean War Records* <http://archives.gov/research/korean-war/index.html>
- *Vietnam-Era Prisoner-of-War / Missing-in-Action Database* <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pow/powhome.html>.
- *Research in Military Records – Vietnam War* <http://archives.gov/research/vietnam-war/>

Additional Resources

- *Casualty list for the Korean conflict : counties : Summit, Stark, Portage, Wayne and Medina* (1977) **aisle 10B**
- *Military Veterans of Paulding County Ohio* (1994) **aisle 3B.**
- *Vietnam War with Walter Cronkite* (2003) **Audio Visual Services 959.7043 V666wc - Video**
- *The Archives of War – Korea and Vietnam* (1999) **Audio Visual Services 909.82 Ar673 – DVD**
- *Veterans Burial Reports (May 1941-September 1995) Generated by the Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics* **Archival Collection, In process**

Military Personnel Records

The National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, St. Louis (NPRC-MPR) is the repository of millions of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased veterans of all services during the 20th century. On July 12, 1973, there was a fire on the top floor of the NPRC-MPC. Many records prior to 1960 were destroyed. Personnel records can be reconstructed through the use of pay vouchers and medical admissions records.

- For veterans and next of kin of deceased veterans, use Electronic Veteran Records (<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>) to request military records.
- If you are not the next of kin, use Standard Form 180 (<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>) to request military records.