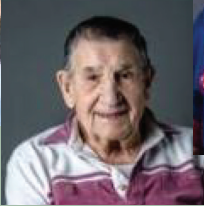
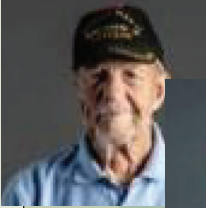
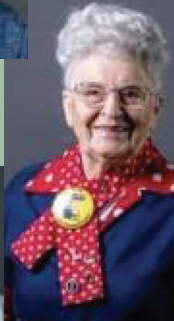


# Mission Margraten Plus

A Mission of Gratitude and Peace



We are a nonprofit from New York honoring our WWII Veteran friends and the Grave Adoption Foundation on this trip to The Netherlands and Belgium.



### **Mission Margraten Plus**

**is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization born from the desire of our 15 WWII Veteran friends to travel to The Netherlands for the 75th anniversary of the Dutch Liberation... that was in May of 2020.**

**A**s our nonprofit began to gain support and our wonderful list of WWII Veterans grew, COVID-19 started to make the news and began shutting down the world. When we heard that The Netherlands was going into lockdown, we knew that the trip would have to be postponed. COVID put an end to that trip, but it did not discourage our WWII Veterans to travel when it was safe to do so...

During that time, we found that our time was quickly shifting from planning the trip to throwing Birthday drive-by parades for our WWII Veterans who otherwise would not be able to celebrate their birthday with friends and family. To be inclusive we would bring a dozen other WWII Veterans to join in the Birthday celebrations.

The first parade was such a success that it quickly drew the attention of other families of WWII Veterans asking us to organize a parade for their father. Each parade was unique as we honored

each Veteran as the individuals they are. There were police escorts, fire trucks, helicopter flyovers, bagpipe bands, WWII era vehicles that our WWII Veterans would ride in. Politicians spoke and handed out Proclamations and Citations to our WWII Veterans. After the parade we would take our wonderful group of WWII Veterans out to lunch, where musicians would perform, and some WWII Veterans would get up and dance.

As the world began to open up, we had an opportunity to have seventeen of our WWII Veterans honored as Military Heroes of the Game at five New York Islanders hockey games. It was amazing to hear the roar of Islanders fans honoring our WWII Veterans. It was great seeing the pride in our WWII Veteran friends.

Since 2014, Roger Kilfoil, Stephanie Folwell, and Team member Jeff Rosenking, have taken 28 WWII Veterans on three separate overnight trips to see the WWII Museum in New Orleans. We have traveled to WWII centric events in Ohio, Boston, Miami, and Washington DC with Veterans in our group. In 2018, we traveled to Europe with three WWII Veterans where we consulted and assisted in three different documentaries about three strikingly different WWII Veterans from our group. We traveled with one to Normandy, France to document his D-Day experiences. With the second, we revisited the site of his liberation of a Nazi labor camp in Nordhausen, Germany. And our third, we retraced his advance through Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge and visited his fallen brothers at the Netherlands American Military Cemetery in Margraten.

In May of 2022 we were finally able to take our long-awaited trip from May 25th to June 6th. Our trip was so successful that we have been invited to return next May of 2023, by the same Dutch organizations and local politicians who attended our events in May of 2022.

People seem to be responding to two things: 1) That we brought eight WWII Veterans and one Rosie the Riveter, and 2) We showed our gratitude to one hundred Grave Adoption families for adopting the memories and graves of fallen American soldiers. We hosted our Gratitude and Peace ceremony at the WWII Memorial in Mesch. There we will be giving another one hundred Grave Adoption families a piece of marble; the same marble used to make the headstones in the Arlington National Cemetery, during our Gratitude and Peace ceremony. The last ceremony was so poignant that we have maintained friendships with many of these families.

We have three men who are already 101 years old and the rest are in their late 90's. We know that the opportunity for them to travel on a trip like this is coming to an end. We would love to get these brave American heroes, who risked so much and have asked for so little, on a trip where they will be honored by people who know the price of liberation and have not forgotten their service and sacrifice.

The overwhelming response we have had from both the Dutch people and military present at the many events we attended this past May, and from our WWII Veterans who traveled, has given us the push to plan another Gratitude and Peace mission in 2023.

Our next mission we have begun talking to teachers here and in the Netherlands to start an Educational Bridge about the Second World War. The inspiration we draw from our WWII community has brought us to thinking of our children's future and their education. We brought our WWII Veterans and American students together again during this Veterans Day week and will continue after the Holidays. The Educational Bridge will demonstrate our continuing mission to express America's gratitude and recognize our Greatest Generation. Please help support Mission Margraten Plus as we endeavor to continue our mission of Gratitude and Peace. Thank you.

**Tax deductible donations  
may be made using our Text-2-Give platform.**

**Text WW2GO to 243725.**

## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **George Ciampa**

**Born: June 16, 1925**

**US Army; Private First Class, Service # 39714653**

**George Ciampa** is a veteran of five campaigns in France, Belgium, and Germany, including the June 6th, D-Day Invasion, and the Battle of the Bulge.

His unit, the 607th Graves Registration Company was the first such unit in France on D-Day. Their grim job was to clear the bodies floating in the water and littering the Omaha and Utah beaches, while still under enemy fire.

The 607th initiated seventeen temporary cemeteries across Europe, handling over 75,000 bodies of American, Allied and German soldiers.

George and his Unit endured waist high snow and freezing temperatures in the coldest winter in Europe in 40 years. They survived brutal German artillery and infantry attacks during the U.S. Army's largest and costliest land battle of WWII, the Battle of the Bulge.

For seven months after the German surrender in Europe, Mr. Ciampa served with the Seventh Army, as part of the occupation of Germany. During his occupation, Mr. Ciampa and his Unit had expected to receive orders to the Pacific Theater, which thankfully, never came.

Mr. Ciampa's Campaign credits include Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace and Central Europe. His awards and decorations include a Distinguished Unit Citation, a Meritorious Unit Award, the French Croix de Guerre with Palm, and the French Legion of Honor.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Dominick Critelli**

**Born: March 8, 1921**

**US Army; Staff Sergeant, Tec-5, Service # 326101028,  
95th Infantry Division, 378th, 2nd Battalion, 479th  
Field Artillery Regiment, Artillery Aviation Units**

**Dominick Critelli** was in the 95th Infantry Division, a member of the 378th Infantry Regiment in an Artillery Aviation Unit. It was his job to keep his Unit's aircraft flying intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions. His Unit identified and observed enemy troop formations, their supply lines, ammunition depots, and the location of enemy fortifications.

In the winter of 1944, Hitler launched his last offensive of the War. The battle would soon be known as the "Battle of the Bulge." General Patton, with Dominick's Artillery Aviation Unit wheeled his 3rd Army a sharp 90 degrees and raced north one hundred miles with 200,000 men and less than 250 tanks to rescue the 80,000 encircled American troops in Bastogne. General Patton's strategy pushed the German Army east, across the Rhine.

In November 1944, Mr. Critelli was one of the brave men from the 378th Regiment to fly behind enemy lines to drop much needed supplies to isolated American troops stuck on the enemy side of a bridgehead. Over a four-day period, Dominick flew fourteen of these missions precisely dropping supplies to isolated American positions. Several dozen bullet holes pierced the wings as he dropped the much-needed supplies and medicine next to our troops. His heroic and meritorious service earned him the Air Medal.

Mr. Dominick Critelli spent 151 days in combat, and also earned, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three Bronze Stars, the American Theater Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, a Good Conduct Medal.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Dr. Richard (Dick) Heinel**

**Born: Oct. 24, 1924**

**US Army; Corporal, Service # 32828464**

**94th Infantry Division, 376th Infantry Regiment.**

**Richard Heinel** was a Pre-Med college student when he was drafted in 1943. His 376th Infantry Regiment began their training in Kansas, before training in Mississippi and earning the distinction of being the first Army Infantry Regiment to qualify as an Expert Infantry Regiment in US military history.

For six and a half months, the aggressive 94th Infantry Division continued its push toward Germany, constructing their own bridges along the way. His division endured 209 days in combat.

Dr. Richard Heinel's Unit received a Presidential Unit Citation for its role in helping the American Third and Seventh Armies, link up and effectively destroy the German 7th Army and neutralized any remaining German forces west of the Rhine. Richard saw combat in France, Germany, and Czechoslovakia, liberated Nazi death camps, and served in the occupation of Czechoslovakia after Germany surrendered.

Dr. Heinel was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his valor in combat. Dick also earned the coveted Combat Infantry Badge, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, and a Good Conduct Medal.





## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Albert Henriques**

**Born: November 19, 1925**

**US Army Air Corps; 337th Bomb Squadron,  
Private First-Class, Service # 42075406**

**Albert Henriques** lived in Harlem when Pearl Harbor was attacked in December of 1941. Albert and several fellow college students were drafted into the United States Army Air Corps. After what seemed like months of testing and exams, Mr. Albert Henriques and about 250 other men of color were selected to join the Tuskegee Experiment.

He and his fellow soldiers were recruited from all over the country. He soon realized that he and these men were selected from 1000's and 1000's of candidates. Albert was fortunate to have had some prior college experience. He knew right away the competition was going to be tough. Besides the academic challenges, Mr. Henriques and fellow men of color would endure racism and Jim Crow laws in the South.

Ultimately, Albert became a highly trained B-17G Bomber engine mechanic.

The storied history of the Tuskegee airmen, their aircrews and the men that kept them flying brought these men to Nebraska, Wyoming and Alabama and Mississippi, before they fought in the skies over Europe.

After the War Mr. Henriques would return to college and finish his bachelor and master's degrees and go on earn a degree in Architecture from the Parson School of Design.





## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Mae Krier**

**Born: March 21, 1926**

**Rosie the Riveter** was the star of a campaign aimed at recruiting female workers for defense industries during World War II, the strong, bandanna clad Rosie became one of the most successful recruitment tools in American history and the most iconic image of working women in World War II. Women who worked to produce tanks, ships, planes, and other weapons during World War II called themselves “Rosies.”

Ms. Mae Krier, an original Rosie the Riveter, worked at Boeing aircraft in Seattle, producing B-17s and B-29s for the war effort from 1943 to 1945. She worked alongside Gold Star mothers that lost sons and widows who had lost their husbands and she was humbled by them, they did not quit. They kept working despite their terrible loss, doing what their Country needed of them.

One of Mae Krier’s proudest moments was on May 12, 1944, when she signed her name on the 5000th B-17 Flying Fortress to leave the Boeing factory since the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was signed inside and out by the men and women who constructed her.

Mae recalls, how the men went off to fight, and the women went to the factories to build everything they needed. When the war was over, Mae says “The men came home to parades; we got a pink slip.” Mae succeeded in getting March 21 recognized as a Rosie the Riveter Day of Remembrance. Inspiring a “We Can Do It!” attitude among young women everywhere. Congress also awarded Mae the Congressional Gold Medal for her service.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **David Marshall**

**Born: Sept. 22, 1924**

**84th Infantry Division, 334th Infantry Regiment,  
3rd Battalion, M Company.**

**David Marshall** was assigned to the 334th Infantry Regiment, Heavy Weapons Battalion. As his Battalion trained on the use of their heavy weapons, Dave became quick friends with George Schmitt. Together they trained and mastered the use of all their weapon systems. Working together, they felt strong, confident and trusted each other.

At dawn, on their first day of combat, a combined, British and American operation began with British mine-clearing flail tanks followed by 84th Infantry Division troops with landmine detectors. As they moved forward, a German heavy artillery barrage ensued. Within 15 minutes of their first action, Dave's friend Schmitt was hit by an enemy shell. Schmitt was instantly killed, and all David could do was move forward and continue the fight.

In December 1944, Europe experienced its coldest winter in 40 years. The 84th Infantry Division battled sub-zero temperatures, blizzards, and waist deep snow while German aircraft buzzed, and artillery boomed overhead. The "Battle of the Bulge" would become WWII's bloodiest and most costly battle. As the 84th pushed back the German advance, they liberated the town of La Roche-en-Ardenne for the second time during the war.

Mr. David Marshall fought 170 days in Combat and was awarded a Bronze Star Medal, and the French Legion of Honor Medal for his valor in combat. Mr. Marshall's decorations also include the coveted Combat Infantry Badge, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation, and the WWII Victory Medal.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **William (Bill) Nacinovich**

**Born: November 8, 1921**

**US Navy; Machinist's Mate 3rd Class,  
USS Herbert C. Jones DE-137, Service # 9083601**

**Bill Nacinovich** was a Naval LCVP, Landing Craft Engineer and operations instructor. The landing craft, better known as the Higgins boat, was a landing craft used extensively in amphibious landings during World War II.

Mr. Nacinovich trained Army, Navy, and Marine Corps personnel in the correct operation of the Higgins Boats on more than 150 training exercises and amphibious landings. Bill trained American and Allied forces before their Normandy invasion in 1944. His instruction included how to deal with every eventuality when the Higgins Boat is in a combat situation.

In the Spring of 1945, Bill was assigned to the Destroyer Escort DE-137, the Herbert C. Jones. His ship was a new Destroyer, fitted with powerful radio-jamming equipment that would help counteract and misdirect the Nazi Terror bombs. This new electronic warfare capability found almost immediate use, jamming, and deflecting into the sea a great majority of the glider bombs directed at the Allied Naval task forces in the North Sea and the English Channel.

Bill earned the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, and a Good Conduct Medal.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Peter Pascale**

**Born: February 3, 1926**

**US Navy; Yeoman 3rd Class, USS Wrangell AE-12**

**Service # 9087065**

**Peter Pascale** turning 18, was drafted into the US Navy. After basic training, he was sent to Newport Rhode Island Naval base, where he received training in the administrative and clerical duties needed to run a Naval fighting ship.

After training, Mr. Pascale and 250 other sailors were assigned to the USS Wrangell. After the ship was loaded with 6500 tons of ammunition, the USS Wrangell received orders, and set sail for Pearl Harbor through Panama Canal.

Peter's battle-station was a communications specialist and manned a 3-inch naval gun with eight other sailors. He wore a specialized helmet and was responsible for receiving targeting information from a Combat Control Officer and directing his naval gun crew's fire.

On their first operation, the USS Wrangell supported the Naval Task force in the Battle of Iwo Jima. It supplied bombardment forces with ammunition over the course of the battle. The nature of operations at Iwo Jima, prevented his ship from anchoring and necessitated conducting ammunition transfer operations while either drifting or underway at slow speed.

Peter's ship was engaged in several major and minor operations, including the invasion of Okinawa. During the height of the Battle for Okinawa, the USS Wrangell re-armed over fifty combatant ships in round-the-clock reloading operations.

The USS Wrangell and her crew earned the American Theatre Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Medal with three Battle Stars, the Philippine Liberation Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal.

## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Nicholas Pasquarello**

**Born: May 18, 1925**

**US Army Air Corps: Tec Corporal, 5th Air Force,  
873rd Engineer Aviation Battalion.**

**Service # 32 991 538**

**Nicholas Pasquarello** turning 18 years old, volunteered to be an Army Engineer. He already had experience operating heavy equipment with his father's construction company. Nicholas became a member of the well-trained and experienced Engineer Aviation Battalion. His Unit could construct airfields in forward locations, with the ability to repair bomb damaged airfields, camouflage airfields and if necessary, to defend the airfields.

His Engineer Aviation Battalion was a self-contained unit that built airstrips, hangers, and facilities in the Pacific theater of operations. Like Nicholas, most of the soldiers in his Unit were volunteers with construction or engineering experience, and they required little training. Nicholas helped built dozens of air bases in the jungles and on coral islands throughout the Central Pacific.

After the invasion of Leyte in the Philippines in October 1944, heavy Japanese naval and aerial attacks forced the U.S. Navy to withdraw its Carrier battle groups. The only air power available to Allied ground forces came from aircraft flying from the airstrips constructed by Nicholas and these Aviation Engineers. These forward airstrips proved vital to the Allied victory in the Pacific.

Nicholas' decorations include Asiatic-Pacific service medal with two Battle stars, the Philippine's liberation ribbon with a Bronze Star, the WWII Victory medal, and a Good Conduct medal.



## BIOGRAPHY & MILITARY HISTORY



### **Carl Tringali**

**Born: September 29, 1924**

**US Navy, Seaman First Class, Service #: 8108093**

**Carl Tringali** was assigned to the USS Barber DE-161, a Buckley-Class Destroyer Escort.

In April 1944, during the “Battle of the Atlantic”, the USS Barber was assigned to an Anti-Submarine Warfare “Killer Group” and sank the German U-Boat, U-488 in the Mid-Atlantic.

In early 1945, the USS Barber was converted into a APD-57, a high-speed attack transport. Carl and his crewmates sailed to Hawaii and received specialized training with Underwater Demolitions Teams, the forerunner of today’s US Navy SEALs.

Their Mission was to disable floating mines and destroy obstacles on the landing beaches. Their secret missions brought her to the beaches of Okinawa 5 days, before the largest amphibious landing in the Pacific Theater. During the 82-day battle, twelve destroyers, fifteen amphibious ships and nine other American ships were sunk.

While servicing on Radar Picket duty, his ship received orders to assist another Destroyer, which had been hit by two kamikaze planes. Carl and his crew survived dozens of Kamikaze and submarine attacks and assisted in the rescue of 188 sailors and aviators from the waters off Okinawa.

Seaman First Class Carl Tringali and the brave crew of the USS Barber earned 3 Battle Stars for their service in the Mediterranean Sea, and in the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. His decorations include the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, the American Campaign Medal with one Battle star, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with one Battle Star, the European African Middle Eastern Medal, the Philippines Liberation Medal, and the WWII Victory Medal.

## Mission Margraten Plus Team



Jacqueline Lousberg,  
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Roger Kilfoil; President and Co-founder  
Stephanie Folwell; Vice President and Co-founder  
Jeffrey Rosenking; Board of Directors

## Sponsors and Supporters







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A Mission of Gratitude and Peace



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