



The Forgotten War - Korea 1950-1953

Lest We Forget

The three Mahanoy City soldiers who were killed in the Korean Conflict

Corporal Louis F. Miskavage

Corporal Louis Miskavage was the son of Mrs. Petri Miskavage of 637 West Spruce Street. He was born in Mahanoy City on September 10, 1924. Louis graduated from Mahanoy City High School in 1943 and entered the U.S. Army soon afterward. He served in the European Theatre of operations and fought with the First Cavalry along the Rhine.

Cpl. Miskavage's brother Anthony was killed in World War II in a kamikaze attack while serving aboard the USS Bache.

In the fall of 1949 Louis reentered the Army and was assigned to Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was sent to Korea soon after the outset of the police action. At the time of his enlistment Louis was employed as a gardener on the grounds of the White House in Washington, D.C.

Cpl. Miskavage was killed in action on September 20, 1950 just ten days after his twenty-sixth birthday.

He was buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery on July 31, 1951.



Cpl. Louis F. Miskavage

Killed in action on September 20, 1950

Private Vincent T. Long

Private Vincent T. Long was the son Mr. and Mrs. Louis Long of 236 East Mahanoy Street. He was born in Mahanoy City on May 5, 1931 and graduated from St. Fidelis Parochial School and attended Mahanoy City High School.

While still in high school Pvt. Long enlisted in the United States Army Engineer Corps on June 22, 1950 and received his training at Fort Knox, Kentucky and Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

After a seven-day furlough at home, he left for Washington State and from there flew to Korea in February 1951.

Pvt. Long was killed in action in Korea on March 15, 1951. A day earlier his parents had received his last letter from Korea.

Pvt. Long was buried in St. Fidelis cemetery on September 22, 1951.



Pvt. Vincent T. Long

Killed on March 15, 1951

Private John G. Gnall

Pfc. John G. Gnall was the son of Mrs. Helen Gnall of 312 West Centre Street and the late John Gnall. He was born on April 23, 1929.

He graduated from Mahanoy City High School in 1946 and before entering the Army was employed by Park Crest Builders and Supply.

John entered the Army on March 22, 1951 and was assigned to Fort Meade, Maryland for basic training. From there he was transferred to Camp Breckenridge until shipping out for Korea from Camp Stoneman, California.

In his last letter home to his mother and sister Katherine, written the day before he was killed in action, he told his family that his outfit was moving out and continued: "This time I think we'll attack. I'm not sure though. I hope not. I don't have very much time left. I don't think this will be very much of a letter. Tell all the folks I said hello and that I was asking about them. May God bless you both. I love and miss you very much. Don't worry. Just pray.

Your loving son and brother, Jackie."

Pfc. Gnall was killed the next day. He was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for bravery in battle.

Pfc. John G. Gnall was buried in St. Mary's Greek Catholic cemetery on February 7, 1952.



Pfc. John G. Gnall

Killed in action October 11, 1951



Pfc. John G. Gnall

Korean Conflict - Silver Star Awarded Posthumously

“On October 11, 1951, Pfc. John C. Gnall, US 561490050, a member of Company “B” 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, distinguished himself very greatly by outstanding action in the vicinity of Hill No. 900, Korea. The unit to which Pfc. Gnall was a member, was assigned the mission of securing a strategic, well fortified hill from a well entrenched and numerous enemy. Being a rifleman, he advanced with his squad until they were unable to move because of a sudden barrage of intense enemy small arms and automatic weapons fire. But seeing the seriousness of the situation, Pfc. Gnall braved the intense fire with absolutely no regard for his own personal safety and moved into a position where he could observe the enemy fire. Armed only with his own individual weapon and grenades, he made several attempts to neutralize the enemy bunker when he finally ran out of grenades. But this did not stop Pfc. Gnall, he fixed his bayonet and singlehandedly charged the position. During this attempt, he was fatally wounded. But his heroic actions inspired his buddies to secure the hill and not let his sacrifice be in vain. The outstanding devotion to duty and his fellow man, and the gallantry displayed by Pfc. Gnall on this occasion reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the military service.”