

## Korean War Veterans continues

Unfortunately I have no pictures or military information about this next Veteran, Herbert Buschmann. From the information I have about him I see that his brother, Henry, served during WWII. Henry graduated from Manning High School in 1945 and Herb in 1948. Their parents, Henry & Minnie (Hoest) Buschmann, are buried in the Manning Cemetery.

### #11 Herbert Buschmann (no pictures or information)

The only other information I could find in my database about Herb came from the school Spotlight which was a weekly feature written by school students.

Hopefully a family member or relative will come forward to help with Herb's military story. Based on the alumni database, it appears that Herb has passed away.

### December 26, 1946 Spotlight

Vocal music groups in Manning high school were named some time ago and regularly scheduled rehearsals are held each week under direction of Miss Esther Stryzewski.

Boys' glee club: Charles Schelldorf, Bob Rothmeyer, Paul Behrens, Bob Koch, Herbert Buschmann, Jerry Knaack, Gene Wiese, Ralph Petersen, Royce Rowedder, Jerry Bonnesen, Jimmy Farrell, Louis Bohnsack, Gerald Grundmeier and Russell Hammer.

### November 13, 1947 M.H.S. Spotlight

#### HERBERT BUSCHMANN

Meet Herbert Buschmann, Manning High School senior. Herbert has attended school with the senior class since Kindergarten. He was a member of mixed chorus during his sophomore and junior years. His hobby is stamp collecting although he says he hasn't followed it too closely lately. After school he is employed at one of the local stores.

### #12 Jerome V. Callanan (no pictures or information)

The only information I have for Jerome is from his tombstone at the Manning Cemetery. His wife, Charlotte, is listed on the tombstone but is still living based on the city records.

Jerome was born on January 17, 1932 and died October 19, 1967. Etched on the stone is Iowa SKSN US Navy.

From what I could find on the Internet, SKSN stands for Seaman, Storekeeper Striker (Naval Rating)

### #13 Mervin W. Christensen (1 picture, very basic information)



Mervin Christensen - probably at boot camp

Mervin was inducted into the U.S. Air Force on January 27, 1953. He took training in Jet Mechanics and served in Amarillo, Texas, Korea, and Rapid City, South Dakota.

His wife, Sondra, was able to be with him during his time in the service with the exception of when he was overseas.

Mervin was discharged on January 26, 1957 with the grade of A/IC.

### #14 Raymond Christensen (multiple pictures, lots of detailed information, interview and more)

#### It's Now or Never

For years I have been bugging hundreds of Manning connected individuals and the families of deceased Veterans about their military information and pictures. Some people have been thinking that this project is dragging on too long, and that a deadline should have been set several years ago. Others are indifferent or don't think it is important to publish a Manning Veterans' history book.

The sad thing is, from my standpoint and decades of experience working on Manning history, the history of our community and most importantly those families/individuals who have made up this community is being lost at an alarming rate. Over the years I have had several family members contact me to find out what their mother or grandmother's maiden name is to use in an obituary for their loved one who died. Many times I will see historical errors in published obituaries, such as when that person graduated from Manning High School, but most concerning to me is the lack of other important historical "facts" such as the deceased person's parents and siblings names, and other traditionally used facts in an obituary. In some cases the person who wrote that obituary may not have even known those names and facts.

So - Why should anyone care about their history? Why should we know and preserve our history? I guess that is up to everyone to figure out for themselves.

To me it is critical for the future of our community and nation that we preserve that history and understand its value. If we don't know where we came from we will inevitably stumble blindly into the future. The history of the Manning area Veterans is not the only important aspect of the overall picture that allowed this community to become what it is today...but I think the military history deserves the attention from every civilian, Veteran, and their families who are connected to Manning, and that a concerted effort should be made by everyone to make sure we publish a Veterans' book.

For years I have been featuring each Veteran by era, starting with the War of 1812, and now we are into the Korean Veteran listings. We will continue listing names alphabetically, but first I want to feature another write-up of a Manning Veteran to help others who don't know where to start and what to submit.

There is really no right or wrong way but we definitely would like more than "I served in the military" with only your name, rank, and serial number and a picture.

In 2010 I scanned around 200 slides of Ray Christensen's military service and several dozen pictures of Ray's relatives who served. Then he came out to my office and we worked on captions and information for those pictures while viewing them on my computer monitor.

We will only be able to use just a few of those pictures in the Veterans' book for Ray's story, but at this point in time we want as much information and as many pictures we can get to add to the Veteran database which is separate but still a part of the Manning Veterans' history book project.

Once I begin to layout the Veterans' book - at that time is when I'll start figuring out how many pictures there will be room for and/or if some of the written information will have to be edited/downsized some.

With over 1000 Manning connected Veterans in my database I want to first make sure that we get all of them listed in the book. For some of those Veterans I have very little information, if any, and maybe one picture or none.

I'm hoping we can raise enough funds and sell enough books during the pre-sales so we can publish a 2 volume book. That way we'll have about one page of space for each Veteran. For those Veterans who we have little if any information and pictures, they won't need a full page, so we'll have extra space to use for those Veterans with more than one page worth of information and pictures.

Below are two examples of Ray's military service that were submitted at different times for different purposes. The first "short" version was submitted for the Veterans' section of the 2006 Manning Quasqui history book. It has more than the basic "name, rank, and serial number" type of information but more details can and should be added for the future Manning Veterans' book. The Manning Quasqui book was about the history of the community so we couldn't use detailed military stories and multiple pictures in the Veteran section, otherwise we wouldn't have had enough room for the other sections of that book such as family, community, business and other historical aspects of Manning's history.

So please read through Ray's two stories below and take notice of the first limited version of his military story and then compare to his story that will be used in the Manning Veterans' book. Keep in mind though, that we won't know until the book is laid out for how many pictures we'll be able to use...but I wanted to post at least this many of Ray's 200 pictures to give the Veteran reader an idea of what we are looking for and they could use in their own personal write-ups.

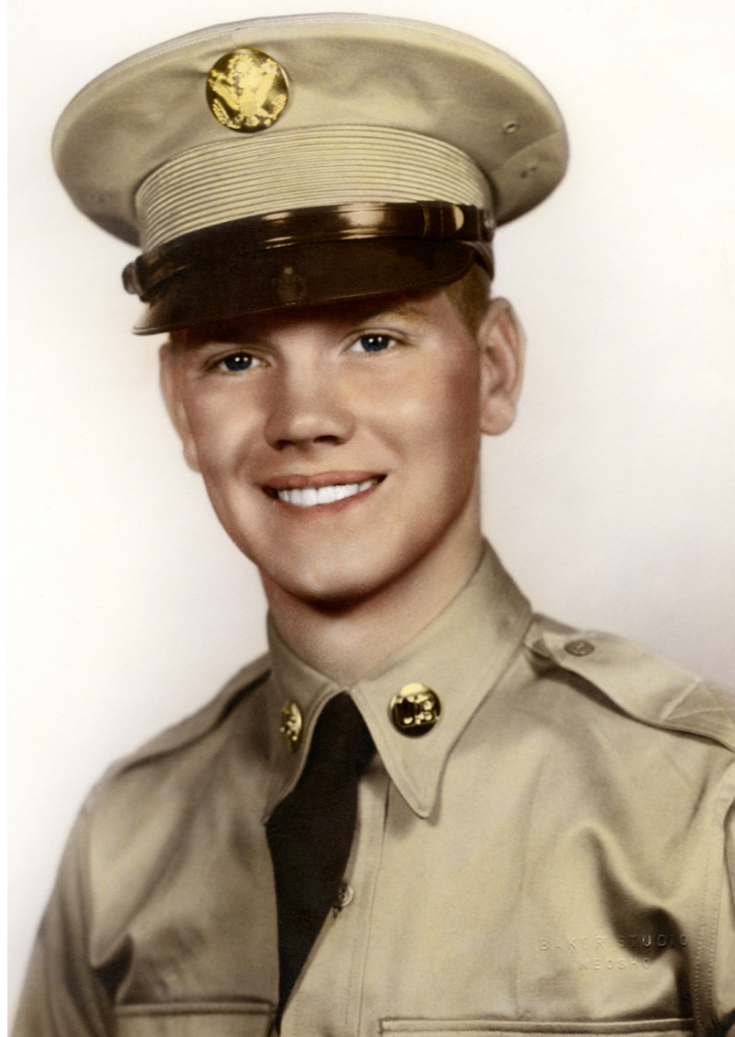
This first example is what a basic military story could look like, but we are hoping to get a lot more details and also include as many pictures as we can find space for.

#### Taken from the Veteran section of the 2006 Manning Quasqui history book.

*Raymond D. Christensen: Raymond was inducted into the Army July 9, 1953, and took his basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas. He served with the 159th Field Artillery Battalion in Korea from November 1953 to May 1955. He received the following medals: National Defense Service and Korean Service, United Nations Service, Good Conduct and Overseas Bar. Corporal Christensen was honorably discharged at Fort Carson, Colorado on May 18, 1955.*

Now compare the short version above to a more thorough version below. I worked with Ray and his children on this story and his daughter, Lauri, gave me a good layout to work from.

Keep in mind that the Manning Veterans' book will be published in color, so any photo, document, or other item that is in color will be shown that way, unless it was scanned in grayscale.



Raymond Christensen was born on February 3, 1934, and grew up near Manning, Iowa. He graduated from Manning High School in 1952. On October 24, 1952, Raymond married his high school sweetheart, Adele Ruth Gray. They are the parents of seven children: three of whom died in infancy (Ray, Sheri, and Chris); and Paul, Del, Lauri Sackett, and Dana.

Ray worked at H&H Builder and Joslins Dry Goods in Denver, Colorado, before joining the Army. Adele worked in the Colorado Courthouse.



Adele and Raymond Christensen

Raymond is the son of Nelson and Effie (Friedrichsen) Christensen, who had two children: Raymond, and Doris Schreck.



Doris, Raymond, Effie, and Nelson Christensen

A unique aspect of the Manning Veterans' history book will be that we'll be including Veteran family members in write-ups. So if grandpa, dad, and son, all served, it will be noted in each specific Veteran's story and the era they served in.

Early on in Raymond's life he was exposed to the raw meaning of the military and the tremendous sacrifices that many Veterans pay to defend the United States of America. When Ray was eleven years old his Uncle Dale Christensen, was KIA during WWII...Dale will be featured in the WWII section of the Manning Veterans' book but I think it is important to tie together Ray's family members who were also Veterans. Nearly every Veterans' section I have seen in other community history books leave out the family connections so you don't know if one Christensen is related to another Christensen (for instance), or to which ones they are related to and how.



Raymond Christensen (far right) at age 11 attended the memorial service for his uncle, Dale Christensen, who died while serving his country in New Guinea during WWII.

Raymond was inducted into the Army on July 9, 1953, in Denver, Colorado. He took basic training at Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, with eight weeks of basic and eight weeks of artillery training. He served with Battery "B" 95th AFA Battalion; 5th Armored Division Artillery. The Korean Armistice Agreement was signed on July 27, 1953, while Raymond was in Basic Training.

It took thirty days to get from the US to Korea by ship. After they left Puget Sound, Ray became seasick for three days. Ray was assigned KP duty on the way over to Korea. He said it was the best job he had because he had access to all of the food and fruit he wanted. One of his duties was to dispose of the food waste over the fantail. The ship took them to Yokohama, Japan, and from there, they traveled by train to Sasebo, Japan, where they spent Christmas Day...Another train took them to Korea.

Raymond served with the 159th Field Artillery Battalion in Korea from December 1953 to April 1955.



The 159th FABN camp was located by Kumwa Valley about 30-40 miles north of Seoul. During basic training, Ray was trained on 105mm howitzers, but when he arrived at Korea, there were 240mm howitzers with 360-pound shells he had to learn to work with.



Live fire of a 240mm howitzer



Ray Christensen (left) and Bruner checking telephone lines

Raymond Christensen continues next week