

ALL GAVE SOME; SOME GAVE ALL

This week's veteran is Rudy Endrizzi.

In his younger years Rudy lived in Decatur, Illinois, on South Water Street. His father was a coal miner. When Rudy was ten, his mother died at which time he was placed in the Catholic Children's Home in Alton, Illinois. After four years in Alton, he was sent to St. James Trade School in Riverton, Illinois for 21/2 years. While attending welding school in Decatur, he was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1944 at 17 years of age.

After induction at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, he was sent to Little Rock , Arkansas, for basic training and later to Waco, and Texarkana, Texas, for advanced training. Rudy was shipped from Fort Ord, California, to the Philippines where he spent time in Leyte, Manila, and Luzon. After his stint in the Philippines, he was transferred to Korea. His trip through the Yellow Sea was rather harrowing. Not only did they have to navigate through mines, but they also were hit by a typhoon. To this day when anyone suggests going by ship, his answer is no. His unit, the 24th Corps comprised of the 6th and 7th Divisions landed at Inchon, Korea, in September of 1945. Their mission was to disarm the Japanese soldiers remaining in the south and to serve as occupational forces while Russian forces occupied the area north of the 38th Parallel. Rudy covered all of the southern part of Korea from Inchon to Pusan and back to Inchon where he left to come back to the States. He ended back where he started at Fort Sheridan to be discharged in 1946.

He received the State of Illinois Service Recognition Certificate in 1947. One of his recent high points was getting to go on the Central Illinois Honor Flight for Veterans to Washington D. C. in 2010. The trip was very special to him.

Rudy married Beverly Moma Cochran Endrizzi in October of 1983. He has three children and four step-children.

Thank you, Technical Sergeant Rudolph V. Endrizzi, for what you gave for us.