

The Pritzker Military Library is thrilled to announce the next phase in its mission to tell the story of the Citizen Soldier: the launching of our oral history project. "Stories of Service" will collect and record first-hand accounts from area veterans and citizens involved in military efforts for the purpose of preserving these stories for future generations.

The Library is seeking participants from all backgrounds for this project. Men and women from all branches, all occupational specialties, and all eras of service are welcome to participate. We are also seeking men and women involved in efforts to support the military on the home front. Participants should be willing to come to our location in downtown Chicago, and should be comfortable sharing their story in a two hour-long audio or a video recorded environment. These recordings will be archived as part of the collection and made available to the public for education and research purposes.

To be considered, we ask that all interested participants complete the following biographical survey and return it to the library. The survey will allow us to develop a set of questions based on your experiences. While not every question on this survey may pertain to your unique experience, your answers will provide a starting point for the interview. Detailed responses are appreciated. Once you have finished the survey, you may mail it back to the Library or email it to the Oral History Coordinator. A staff member will contact you if further information is needed and to let you know what further steps are required.

The Pritzker Military Library is a non-partisan, nonprofit institution that seeks to acquire and maintain a collection of materials and develop appropriate programs focusing on the Citizen Soldier in the preservation of democracy. In addition to the oral history project, the Library welcomes donations of materials such as books, photographs, and artifacts. For more information, please visit [www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org](http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org) or contact Thomas Webb, the Oral History Coordinator.

We look forward to seeing you at the Library soon!

Thomas Webb  
Oral History Coordinator  
Pritzker Military Library

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Succession Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

# The Pritzker Military Library

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## “Stories of Service” Oral History Project Questionnaire

### Current Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Background Information

Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

Service Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Enlisted/Drafted (Circle One)

Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) \_\_\_\_\_ Active/Reserve (Circle One)

Please List Battalions, Regiments, Divisions, Units, Ships, etc. related to your military career \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Service Dates \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Highest Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm/dd/yyyy) (mm/dd/yyyy)

Please List War(s)/Military Action In Which You Served \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please List Locations of Military or Civilian Service \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Did You Sustain Combat or Service-Related Injuries? Yes/No (Circle One)

Did You Receive Medals or Special Service Awards? Please List (Be As Specific As Possible)

\_\_\_\_\_

The following questions will give us a better understanding of your military background. Please answer in as much detail as you are comfortable with sharing. There is additional space at the end of the questionnaire for more information if you feel that the space provided is not adequate. You may also include additional pages if necessary. If selected to participate in our Oral History Project, these answers will serve as the basis for more detailed interview questions.

What were the circumstances surrounding your decision to be a part of the military?

What were your experiences during boot camp?

Did you receive any special training? What was your specialty during service?

After training, where did the military send you?

Did you see combat? If so, where?

What were your opinions of the men and women serving with you at the time? Have any of those relationships lasted beyond military service?

What was your personal philosophy about the enemy that you faced? Has that philosophy changed at all over the years?

What kinds of activities did you participate in to occupy yourself during daily down time?

What were some of your experiences during leave?

Is there an experience that you had during your time in the military that you feel exemplifies your service? If so, please describe.

What did you do once you left the military? Did your military experience prepare you for civilian life?

Are you a member of any veteran organizations? If so, which one(s)?

What is your understanding of what it means to be a “Citizen Soldier”? How does this understanding fit in with your military experiences?

If selected to be a part of this project, do you have any letters, photographs, maps, articles, documentation or other mementos from your service that you would be willing to share with or donate to the library for the purpose of this Oral History? If so, please list items:

**Additional Information:**