



**Service Histories of Veterans
Listed on the Spring Grove Area
Veterans Memorial**

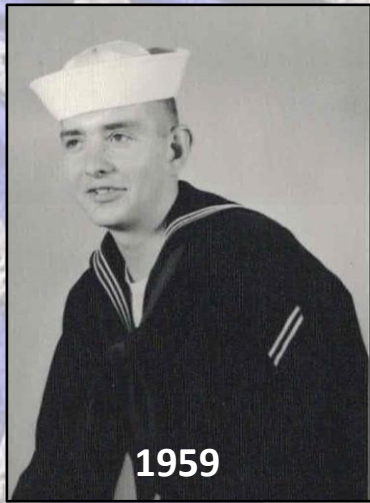
Criteria for Placing Names on the Memorial

- Honor Roll, Legion Post 249 membership, and veteran and/or family request.
- DD214 required from non-Legion members.
- If the family cannot locate the DD214 or other discharge papers, burial in a national or state veterans cemetery or proof of a VA gravestone will suffice as proof of honorable service.
- Ties to Spring Grove that can be verified including:
 - Lived in or near Spring Grove to include Blackhammer, western Wilmington (within 55974 zip code and/or Spring Grove School District) and Spring Grove Townships;
 - Or attended Spring Grove school system.
- Veterans who have moved away from Spring Grove or those who have moved to Spring Grove will be included upon their request.
- Living veteran's names will be included with their permission.
- Spring Grove Legion Post 249 members from northern Iowa are eligible for inclusion.
- Veterans from Iowa who are not members of Spring Grove Legion Post 249 need to establish ties to Spring Grove to be eligible.

Military Histories of Listed Veterans

- The SGAVMG has begun a program to enable the public to view veterans' pictures, military history and biographies by using existing internet communications in the city park.
- How does this work?
 - The veteran must already have or be eligible to have his or her name on the memorial.
 - Log onto our website at <https://www.springgroveveteransmemorial.org> and navigate to the Veterans Biographies tab at the top of the page.
 - Download the Biographical Information form. Complete the form and return it per the instructions on the form.
 - The veteran or a family member provides needed information including name, photographs, service information, post service, etc.
- The veteran or his/her family must agree that any information submitted for inclusion will be placed in the public domain and displayed on our website.
- The SGAVMG will add the information to our PowerPoint and publish the information on our website www.springgroveveteransmemorial.org
- Visitors can log onto this website with cell or wifi, navigate to Veteran's Biographies, and click a link to open the document.

Share your military history with your family for generations to come.



Allen Johnson

Petty Officer FTA3 (E-4)

US Navy

1959 – 1963

Good Conduct Medal



- Born in LaCrosse, October 1940. Graduated from Canton High School in 1958.
- March 1959, Navy Boot Camp at Great Lakes Naval Station as Fire Control Artillery Tech.
- Trained on Navy submarines, but too tall. Assigned to: Portsmouth, VA; Norfolk, VA; Keflavik, Iceland; and USS Fort Snelling, Little Creek, VA.
- October 1962 assigned to USS Arneb AKA56 for OPERATION DEEP FREEZE 1962 – 1963.
- Crossed the Equator and became a “Shell Back” while enroute to McMurdo Sound, Antarctica. Tied up to the ice shelf several times in order to deliver winter supplies. Once hit an iceberg and damaged the ship’s hull.
- Completed enlistment on March 23, 1963. Returned to Canton, MN.
- Married Dianne Doely in August 1963. Trained as electrician, moved to Ramsey, MN, and worked for 28 years as an electrician for Minneapolis, MN, Public Schools.
- Two boys and one girl: Lee Allen Johnson, Richard Allen Johnson, and LeAnn Kraus.
- Wife Dianne passed away in 2010. Allen moved back to Spring Grove in 2012.



1971

Robert Karlsbrotten

Staff Sergeant, E5, US Air Force

Jan. 21, 1971 – Jan. 20, 1977

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

National Defense

Air Force Small Arms Expert



2022

- Grew up on a farm south of Spring Grove before enlisting, lived in Spring Grove after discharge.
- Basic Training, 3709 Squadron, Flight 0106, Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX, Jan – Mar 1971.
- 3787 Technical Training Squadron, Air Training Command, Port Hueneme, CA, Mar – May 1971.
- 321st Civil Engineering Squadron, Grand Forks AFB, Grand Forks, ND, Jun 1971 – Jan 1975. Air Force Reserves, Jan 1975 – Jan 1977.
- Active member of American Legion Post 249, Spring Grove, MN since 1974.
- Schools attended: Bekken, Kjome, Highlandville and North Winneshiek.
- Drove truck for Caledonia Haulers and Lake Center Industries.
- Married Paula Price Nov 25, 2005. Step children – Robert Kreier and Heather Kreier.
- Lives now in Valley High Golf, Houston, MN.



c. 1945

Morris Tweeten

Technician 5
1944 – 1946
Army
WWII

Infantry, B 99th Field Artillery Division

Military decorations: Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon
Bronze Battle Star; Philippine Liberation Ribbon
Bronze Battle Star; Victory Medal; Good Conduct Medal;
Army of Occupation Japan Medal



2010

- Born in 1926 in North Dakota. Attended Arling & Darling Springs School, Bucyrus, ND.
- Moved to Spring Grove at the age of 15. Worked for Grant Ingvalson hauling cream & livestock.
- Drafted into the Army on Oct. 10, 1944. Served in Asiatic Pacific Theater on Luzon Island & Cabanatuan, PI. Hauled supplies to liberated prisoners of war at Cabanatuan PoW Camp. One of the first to go ashore after the bombing of Hiroshima & Nagasaki. Detached Service of Military Government for General MacArthur's Headquarters. Jeep driver for HQ Officers.
- After service, returned to Spring Grove. Owner Tweeten Trucking. Hauled livestock throughout Midwest. Purchased a farm near SG and farmed throughout his life.
- Married Geneva Berquam on July 30, 1949. Five children: Marsha, Jennifer, Jaclyn, Michael & Taresa. Ten grandchildren.
- Died August 7, 2021. Buried Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery, Spring Grove MN.

Charles O. Sylling

Colonel, US Air Force
1971 – 1995

18 years & almost 3000 flight hours in F-4 and F-15 fighters

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal

Combat Readiness Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal



2018



1995

- Graduated from Spring Grove High School 1968. Graduated from USAF Academy, 1971.
- Top Graduate, Pilot Training, Laughlin AFB, TX, 1972. Awarded Commander's Trophy.
- Graduated F-4E Training, Homestead AFB, FL, 1973.
- F-4E Operations: Hahn, AB, GE; Osan AB, ROK; Fighter Weapons School; Nellis AFB, NV.
- Upgraded to F-15 Instructor, Mission Commander, Flight Examiner, 1979.
- Instructor Pilot, Flight Commander, Wing Chief of Stan Eval, Nellis AFB, NV.
- HQ Tactical Air Command; Weapons and Tactics; Chief, William Tell, 1986 – 1988.
- Operations Officer, 44 TFS; Commander, 67 TFS, 1989 – 1991. Won Hughes Trophy, 1989.
- Top USAF Graduate, Naval War College, 1992; Joint Staff, J-7, 1992 – 1996.
- Retired from Joint Staff. Joined Science Applications and supported DoD organizations in Virginia and Colorado Springs, CO. Retired and moved to Camano Island, WA, 2010.
- Married Candyce Sylling, 1973. Married 50 years and counting.
- Two children, Emily and Andrew; three grandchildren, Sasha, Caroline and Samantha.



Submit questions or comments to
charliesyiling@gmail.com

or

Call 360.387.7512 after 10 AM Pacific Time

Work in Progress

Alphabetical Index

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Work in Progress

NAME

Picture While
in the
Service

Highest Rank
Branch of Service
Years When He/She Served (YYYY-YYYY)

Contemporary
Picture Later in
Life

Date of Photo

Date of Photo

Space for Text from Veteran or Family
Font Calibri (Body) no smaller than 18 pt.
Text must fit on one slide.

Suggested inputs:

Ties to Spring Grove – lived where before enlisting...

Schools ...

Military Specialty –Units, Location, Specialty

Bases of assignments ...

Military Decorations ...

After service ...

Married and family ...

Lives where now? ...

Died

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