

William Mills Interview

Company B, 318th Inf Reg

(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Clair R. Mills)

(MS Word Audio Transcript [NOT edited, just transcribed])

00:00:03 Speaker 1

13th, 2004.

00:00:05 Speaker 1

We are at 1503 S 2nd St. with my grandfather, William Mills, who I'm interviewing. He was born on May 8th, 1924 and served in the United States Army.

00:00:18 Speaker 1

As first class private.

00:00:20 Speaker 2

Right, correct.

00:00:23 Speaker 1

During World War 2.

00:00:27 Speaker 1

Were you drafted or did you enlist drafted?

00:00:29 Speaker 2

I was drunk.

00:00:32 Speaker 1

Were you living at this? Where were you living at the?

00:00:34 Speaker 2

Time Elkhart IN.

00:00:37 Speaker 1

Why did you join?

00:00:39 Speaker 2

Why did I join my friends and neighbors volunteered me to serve in this in the army.

00:00:46 Speaker 2

As a as a draftee.

00:00:50 Speaker 2

That's why we had no choice and we we were drafted, but that's what the the.

00:00:58 Speaker 2

The summons that they send you, Regis, is your neighbors and your friends have chosen you to represent them in the service of the United States and the United States Army.

00:01:09 Speaker 1

Why do you think the service branch you join?

00:01:15 Speaker 2

I get sea.

00:01:15 Speaker 2

Sick. So I didn't want to join the Navy.

00:01:19 Speaker 2

And and the army or the Marines that the Coast Guard was all that was left. So I elected to be.

00:01:26 Speaker 2

Drafted by the army.

00:01:29 Speaker 1

Do you recall your first days in service? Yes.

00:01:34 Speaker 1

What did it feel?

00:01:35 Speaker 1

Like.

00:01:37 Speaker 2

Well, the first week you you they give you, you take, they exchange your civilian clothes for army clothes and after the first week while you return home.

00:01:49 Speaker 2

For a weekend and then.

00:01:53 Speaker 2

When you return, you are officially inducted into the.

00:01:59 Speaker 2

And.

00:02:02 Speaker 2

You're at induction center and from there you moved almost immediately to a training.

00:02:10 Speaker 2

Training base and.

00:02:17 Speaker 2

You just did. You just hit their mercy wherever, wherever they want to.

00:02:20 Speaker 2

Send you go.

00:02:22 Speaker 2

OK.

00:02:23 Speaker 1

Tell me about your boot camp training.

00:02:26 Speaker 2

OK. Well, when we arrive, we arrived.

00:02:33 Speaker 2

At Keesler Field in Mississippi.

00:02:35 Speaker 2

It was a cold, rainy day and it was in the evening or dark, and we stood in the rain for a couple hours and soaked 2 hours.

00:02:46 Speaker 2

Skin through our more clothing and then we will March to a a tent camp where we spent the.

00:02:53 Speaker 2

Night.

00:02:54 Speaker 2

You know, we were so tired. I was so tired, I didn't even change my clothes. I just went to bed and I went clothes.

00:03:02 Speaker 2

But yeah, they have beds with cots.

00:03:07 Speaker 2

And from there way we were we were instructed in drill and in handling weapons and.

00:03:18 Speaker 2

Exercise calisthenics.

00:03:21 Speaker 2

And.

00:03:23 Speaker 2

I think that went on for eight weeks.

00:03:26 Speaker 2

Marching and drilling and calisthenics twice a day.

00:03:32 Speaker 2

Good food. But we lived in tents.

00:03:38 Speaker 1

Do you remember your instructors?

00:03:40 Speaker 2

I don't remember their names.

00:03:43 Speaker 2

We had a drill Sergeant.

00:03:45 Speaker 2

He was. I mean, I mean.

00:03:47 Speaker 2

Leader, he took us where before we wanted to go. We we we marched to lunch at the exercise and to and to the rifling range.

00:04:00 Speaker 2

But I don't remember his name.

00:04:03 Speaker 1

How did you get through it?

00:04:04 Speaker 2

How did I get there? Very, very well. I was only 18 years old and.

00:04:11 Speaker 2

The exercise of drilling didn't bother me a bit. Some of the other men that were in in, in our group.

00:04:19 Speaker 2

Who is old is 3540 years old and was thinking.

00:04:26 Speaker 1

Which wars did you serve them?

00:04:30 Speaker 1

He was asking which 4 you served in.

00:04:33 Speaker 2

World War 2.

00:04:35 Speaker 1

Where exactly did you go?

00:04:37 Speaker 2

But in case we field.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

After I finished my training there.

00:04:43 Speaker 2

While I was there, by the way, then I went to a school, cooks and bakery school.

00:04:49 Speaker 2

I think that was.

00:04:51 Speaker 2

Four or eight weeks and after that I went to the messaging school, which is another four weeks, so I spent considerable time, at least for now, we went to Blythe, CA on the desert and I worked as a cook.

00:05:09 Speaker 2

With the trucking trucking company.

00:05:14 Speaker 2

For about 3 months in California.

00:05:18 Speaker 2

From there, we got on the train and we thought we were going to go to the Pacific because.

00:05:24 Speaker 2

We were already in California. We thought we got the Pacific theater, but we didn't. We we went east on the train and to New Jersey.

00:05:36 Speaker 2

And there was a port of embarkation. I've forgotten the name of the the military establishment in New Jersey, and there we got on a liberty ship and I think.

00:05:50 Speaker 1

Do you remember arriving and what was it like?

00:05:53 Speaker 2

Do I remember arriving in England? Yes, I did. I was seasick for 10 days.

00:06:01 Speaker 2

So much for the.

00:06:02 Speaker 2

Navy.

00:06:05 Speaker 2

And we arrived in Edinburgh, Scotland.

00:06:09 Speaker 2

And.

00:06:10 Speaker 2

After 14 days.

00:06:12 Speaker 2

And we took it train from Scotland down down to England.

00:06:19 Speaker 2

And I remember along the way, a lot of those Scottish kids and English kids.

00:06:24 Speaker 2

Were.

00:06:26 Speaker 2

Were when the train would stop, they'd say hello. Yeah, they would raise to us. And then we from candy, which they were very used to getting. And I remember the kids.

00:06:37 Speaker 2

And.

00:06:38 Speaker 2

We went from Edinburgh to Air Force.

00:06:44 Speaker 2

In their field, that American Air field, where missions were being blown every day over Germany to be 17, and we stayed there for maybe a week the most, and from there we went to a base Air Depot which which is supply a supply.

00:07:05 Speaker 2

Group that supplied the Air Force with whatever they needed. Oils, gasoline, all kinds of reference.

00:07:14 Speaker 2

That was it.

00:07:15 Speaker 2

Based at Warrington, England, called Vad number one and then from there I was transferred to a small a smaller supply where they handled just paints, oils and and liquids and I spent about 18 months there. It was in pointing.

00:07:35 Speaker 2

Pressure.

00:07:38 Speaker 1

What was your job or assignment?

00:07:42 Speaker 2

I'm pretty much on the same.

00:07:44 Speaker 2

And it was.

00:07:47 Speaker 2

General maintenance.

00:07:51 Speaker 2

Most of the time we had a very.

00:07:54 Speaker 2

They had actually over, you know, they didn't need any cooks or they didn't need.

00:07:58 Speaker 2

A.

00:07:58 Speaker 2

Massage. So I didn't have any when I was trained for, I wasn't able to do.

00:08:08 Speaker 2

They had thirteen of us that were less excess than one barracks and whatever needed done on the campus in the way of maintenance.

00:08:23 Speaker 2

That's about it. You did that for the year?

00:08:32 Speaker 1

Well, later on, did you see combat?

00:08:34 Speaker 2

Yes. Yeah, the battle of the world, right. the US Army ran short on on infantry replacements and they wanted. They realized that they had over oversupplied the Air Force personnel.

00:08:50 Speaker 2

So they from this base Air depot and ink and they took 10% of the of the personnel and put us in the.

00:09:00 Speaker 2

Infantry.

00:09:02 Speaker 2

And I was assigned Chris. We were trained in southern England.

00:09:08 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:09:11 Speaker 2

After about six weeks training, we started to move towards the front.

00:09:17 Speaker 2

And I can't remember the exact date, but sometimes.

00:09:23 Speaker 2

Through the winter we were more or less moving towards the front and.

00:09:28 Speaker 2

And I'd say in March, we arrived at our unit. I I caught up with my unit, which was the 80th Infantry Division company B300 and 18th Infantry Regiment at a place called the Icing Stop in Germany.

00:09:44 Speaker 2

It was on the outskirts at Burford.

00:09:47 Speaker 2

And that's when we saw first hand.

00:09:51 Speaker 1

Were there many casualties?

00:09:52 Speaker 1

In their unit.

00:09:53 Speaker 2

Yes, that, that.

00:09:57 Speaker 2

First day, I'd say there was. Well, yeah, in in our, in our regiment we probably took.

00:10:07 Speaker 2

12 to 15 casualties.

00:10:13 Speaker 2

And then we lost 111 man in our squad was killed in Erfurt, Germany.

00:10:19 Speaker 2

And that was it. After that, when you lost?

00:10:26 Speaker 1

Tell me about a couple of your memorable experiences.

00:10:33 Speaker 2

Well.

00:10:35 Speaker 2

How about a spiritual?

00:10:38 Speaker 2

We we went from Eisenstadt.

00:10:44 Speaker 2

We started marching and and I think we marched all night.

00:10:49 Speaker 2

And all the next day till about 4:00 in the afternoon came one of our companies was.

00:10:56 Speaker 2

Pin what we call pinned down in an open field by German.

00:11:03 Speaker 2

Weapons and we were assigned to March up behind was into the woods March up behind the German.

00:11:14 Speaker 2

People that had these, this other company pinned down and we stopped.

00:11:20 Speaker 2

Just short of where the German line was.

00:11:24 Speaker 2

And.

00:11:27 Speaker 2

All of a sudden, one of the guys that had been in the company.

00:11:31 Speaker 2

Started yelling over at his grandfather. That was a priest by the name of Father Martin.

00:11:38 Speaker 2

Walking from the German line towards us and he came.

00:11:42 Speaker 2

And.

00:11:43 Speaker 2

I had experienced it that Jesus, Jesus Christ was there right there with with me, not not anybody else thinking, but Jesus not his mother.

00:11:55 Speaker 2

It was just a brief experience as Father came back.

00:12:01 Speaker 2

Then.

00:12:04 Speaker 2

We moved on and and the Germans had vacated their positions in front of.

00:12:08 Speaker 2

Us.

00:12:09 Speaker 2

And there were some injured and dead people that that father had been giving the last rights to her treating.

00:12:23 Speaker 1

Were you prisoner of war?

00:12:26 Speaker 1

Tell me about your experience. Oh, no, I've been fine. Were you awarded any medals or citations?

00:12:33 Speaker 2

Nothing special.

00:12:38 Speaker 1

How did you stay in touch with your family?

00:12:41 Speaker 2

Oh to.

00:12:43 Speaker 2

Through.

00:12:48 Speaker 1

E-mail.

00:12:48 Speaker 2

And what?

00:12:49 Speaker 1

Female.

00:12:50 Speaker 2

Female. Yeah. How do you know about them?

00:12:53 Speaker 2

Yeah, yeah, yeah, that should be.

00:12:57 Speaker 1

What was the food like?

00:12:59 Speaker 2

Whoops well.

00:13:01 Speaker 2

It was sufficient. The warm food was always good. The field food was was had two packs, breakfast, lunch and dinner. And they're called key rashes and you usually carry one or two days. Supply it with when you're in the.

00:13:18 Speaker 2

In the.

00:13:20 Speaker 2

And the morning was the best they had. It was scrambled eggs in a can with with ham or bacon.

00:13:31 Speaker 2

Biscuits, crackers for biscuits and you have. These are coffee or an orange drink.

00:13:41 Speaker 2

Package that you mix coffee is the best.

00:13:47 Speaker 2

And a fruit bar like a candy Bar 1 was.

00:13:49 Speaker 2

True.

00:13:50 Speaker 2

So breakfast was good for dinner. It was hardly edible. Can of cheese, hard cheese and some more crackers.

00:14:02 Speaker 2

And.

00:14:03 Speaker 2

Maybe a fruit drink?

00:14:05 Speaker 2

And maybe a candy bar. And you always got a package of cigarettes. 4 cigarettes in every with every minute.

00:14:16 Speaker 2

And for dinner.

00:14:19 Speaker 2

It was some kind of a canned beer.

00:14:22 Speaker 2

The cans were about the size of a small tuna fish can.

00:14:26 Speaker 2

And I can't remember for sure what was what we had for dinner it.

00:14:30 Speaker 2

Was some kind of meat.

00:14:32 Speaker 2

Might have been spam.

00:14:37 Speaker 1

Did you have plenty of supplies?

00:14:39 Speaker 2

Yes, we were. Well, yeah, we had clothing and and food and and just everything you could.

00:14:49 Speaker 1

Did you feel any pressure or stress?

00:14:53 Speaker 2

Ohh yeah, when you're living living outdoors night and day, it's just, you know, because you don't have a good water supply you don't have.

00:15:02 Speaker 2

Any.

00:15:03 Speaker 2

Bathroom for you. You take your bath and your helmet.

00:15:09 Speaker 2

And so they're stress. Yeah, but you're young.

00:15:13 Speaker 2

If you're young.

00:15:15 Speaker 2

Special heart.

00:15:19 Speaker 1

Was there something special you did for good luck?

00:15:24 Speaker 2

I carried a rosary with me all the.

00:15:27 Speaker 2

Said well, and every time every chance we got we we go to mass. When when possible we had this chaplain in our regiment and wherever whenever we stopped flowing. That's why he would have a mass or if we were lucky another unit chaplain.

00:15:44 Speaker 2

Might be in the area and they'd he'd have an they'd have a mask.

00:15:49 Speaker 2

In church, if possible. If you're in their city, but if not they they sell by mass, the altar would be the front of the hood of.

00:15:56 Speaker 2

A Jeep.

00:15:58 Speaker 2

And they'd have masks, and they'd have outdoor confessions.

00:16:07 Speaker 1

How did contain themselves?

00:16:09 Speaker 2

Fine.

00:16:10 Speaker 1

How did people entertain themselves?

00:16:13 Speaker 2

Well, we played live cards.

00:16:16 Speaker 2

Gambling a little bit.

00:16:22 Speaker 2

And it was adventuresome, seeing you visit the, you'd walk through these beautiful little German towns. It was and and. And the winner was.

00:16:34 Speaker 2

It was spring by the time we got there, and so the weather was pretty nice, although the way we did have an 8 inch snow on the 1st of May.

00:16:43 Speaker 2

And that.

00:16:45 Speaker 2

But you entertained the camaraderie. Camaraderie. Your friends remain in.

00:16:58 Speaker 1

Were there entertainers? Were there entertainers? Were you there?

00:17:01 Speaker 2

Never, never saw him take.

00:17:04 Speaker 2

No.

00:17:05 Speaker 2

Once, once I think we found a red.

00:17:07 Speaker 2

Cross.

00:17:10 Speaker 2

The van where they were having passing out coffee into.

00:17:14 Speaker 2

One time we came about for that.

00:17:19 Speaker 1

What did you do when on wave?

00:17:23 Speaker 2

Well, in England.

00:17:25 Speaker 2

You traveled one station, the name, and you travel one weekend. I went to, went to.

00:17:31 Speaker 2

Funding.

00:17:33 Speaker 2

Which were close to Manchester, so I got on the train and Manchester in the evening and about 3:00 in the morning arrived and.

00:17:41 Speaker 2

And.

00:17:42 Speaker 2

London had a famous.

00:17:45 Speaker 2

American Red Cross called the Piccadilly Circus and I walked from the.

00:17:51 Speaker 2

Subway station nearest.

00:17:54 Speaker 2

Circles the Red Cross. Stay there over the weekend.

00:17:59 Speaker 2

And that was one trip and another time. We friend and I, there was a lake in northern England called Lake Windermere. We went.

00:18:08 Speaker 2

Up there for.

00:18:10 Speaker 2

And.

00:18:11 Speaker 2

Uh.

00:18:13 Speaker 2

While in in England we were free almost every night and there were liberty runs from our base to Manchester and from our base to a town called Macclesfield, and any night that you wanted to go to town.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

We had bicycles you could point to. Chester was about a mile away. You could make the point. And there was a dance hall there. And there were pubs all over the place.

00:18:42 Speaker 2

England was was was not hardly it was. It was pretty soft that.

00:18:51 Speaker 1

Where did you travel while in the service?

00:18:53 Speaker 2

Where did I?

00:18:54 Speaker 2

Drop.

00:18:56 Speaker 2

Traveled.

00:18:58 Speaker 2

From Mississippi to California to California to New Jersey, NJ to Scotland, Scotland to England, England to France.

00:19:08 Speaker 2

And and Germany and Austria, the war ended in Austria when we were in Austria when the.

00:19:12 Speaker 2

War and.

00:19:13 Speaker 2

And then when the war was over and they had opened, they opened up a College in England called Shrivensham University from America.

00:19:25 Speaker 2

Troops are awaiting transportation home, so I volunteered to go there, went back from Austria to England, spent the last three months in my service and in England, which was driven him was 30 miles.

00:19:41 Speaker 2

South of London. So every weekend I can go to London, which I did.

00:19:49 Speaker 1

Do you recall any particular humorous or unusual events?

00:19:56 Speaker 2

See.

00:20:01 Speaker 2

Well.

00:20:04 Speaker 2

When the war ended, it ended in May on my birthday. That's unusual.

00:20:11 Speaker 2

And we were in in Austria and we moved to Germany in the Alps, in Germany and.

00:20:20 Speaker 2

We spent the summer in two towns, one orbit store, and there was a.

00:20:27 Speaker 2

Scheme out and they're coining.

00:20:31 Speaker 2

The Neville horn. We were there for about 6 weeks in Overstock and then we moved to a little town called Santos.

00:20:39 Speaker 2

Which was a village nearby, and that was a a beautiful way to spend the summer in in the Alps.

00:20:51 Speaker 1

What were some of the pranks that you or others would call?

00:20:55 Speaker 1

Would you pull pranks on each other?

00:20:55 Speaker 2

Fine.

00:21:00 Speaker 2

No, not really. I can't. I can't even.

00:21:03 Speaker 1

OK. Do you have any photographs?

00:21:06 Speaker 2

Yes, thank you.

00:21:09 Speaker 1

Who are the people in the photograph?

00:21:11 Speaker 2

MY2 best friends.

00:21:15 Speaker 2

Actually actually 3 best friends 11 boy was from Wilkes Barre.

00:21:22 Speaker 2

Pennsylvania. His name is Tony Lipsky. Another friend was. His name was Norbert Gerlach, from Columbus. OH, and a third one who? I got to be friends with in the infantry.

00:21:37 Speaker 2

John Kovach, from Toledo, OH, now John. I met a couple of times after the war, but I never. I never had it with fortune of seeing my other two good friends.

00:21:52 Speaker 1

What do you think of officers or fellow soldiers?

00:21:56 Speaker 2

What do I think?

00:21:57 Speaker 2

Of what did we think of?

00:22:02 Speaker 2

Where my friends were one.

00:22:04 Speaker 2

They were. We were on the same page more or less spiritually and.

00:22:09 Speaker 2

I have to say they were. They were Catholic.

00:22:14 Speaker 2

And the rest of the people was they were an education.

00:22:20 Speaker 2

They were. They were.

00:22:22 Speaker 2

From all all parts of the United States to South.

00:22:27 Speaker 2

Especially I know it's people from the South.

00:22:32 Speaker 2

And I never really got real close to any any any other people.

00:22:41 Speaker 2

Those friends I mentioned, but they were Americans and and I got they opened my eyes up to what?

00:22:48 Speaker 2

What the young people were like in the United States?

00:22:55 Speaker 1

Did you keep a personal diary?

00:23:00 Speaker 1

Do you recall the day your service center?

00:23:05 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:23:07 Speaker 1

Where were you?

00:23:08 Speaker 2

Well.

00:23:10 Speaker 2

I think I was Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

00:23:14 Speaker 2

And.

00:23:18 Speaker 2

They give you.

00:23:20 Speaker 2

A ticket to your hometown. I lived in Elkhart, India, and lived in a tipping for a bus ride to Elkhart.

00:23:28 Speaker 2

And I ride home at 5:00 in the morning.

00:23:33 Speaker 2

And survived my mother in part.

00:23:36 Speaker 2

To my brothers.

00:23:39 Speaker 1

What did you do in the days and weeks afterwards?

00:23:42 Speaker 2

After the war.

00:23:45 Speaker 2

I had friends and.

00:23:50 Speaker 2

The the the.

00:23:53 Speaker 2

Decision was whether to take the order to take advantage of the GI.

00:23:56 Speaker 2

Bill.

00:23:59 Speaker 2

You could start up a business if you want. You could go to school and that's what I decided. I had two friends that were going to going to.

00:24:08 Speaker 2

For the engineering school, what we do.

00:24:11 Speaker 2

And so.

00:24:13 Speaker 2

I wrote wrote to Lafayette with them.

00:24:16 Speaker 2

And.

00:24:18 Speaker 2

Without without being sure without informing role, but finding a place to live was was.

00:24:27 Speaker 2

Hard at that time because.

00:24:30 Speaker 2

Anyway, we found one new and and there were three of us, so we flipped coins and the odd men.

00:24:38 Speaker 2

Afternoon. Yeah.

00:24:40 Speaker 2

Well, I wasn't actually a candidate to go to Purdue. I I won.

00:24:43 Speaker 2

The room.

00:24:45 Speaker 2

So I went over and enroll that's changed that that set my life up.

00:24:51 Speaker 2

Until now, I mean that man I stayed in Lafayette. I finally met a girl and Lafayette got married and been here. And I've been here ever since. And I did manage to graduate.

00:25:07 Speaker 1

So when you went.

00:25:08 Speaker 1

To school, was it supported by the GI Bill?

00:25:10 Speaker 2

It sure was completely supported right down to the pencil, and the paper was one.

00:25:17 Speaker 1

Did you make any close friendships following the service?

00:25:20 Speaker 2

In this room, that's how I did. I mentioned there was already.

00:25:25 Speaker 1

And.

00:25:27 Speaker 1

And you said you continued your friendship with the guy from Toledo, right?

00:25:31 Speaker 2

Idea. Yeah. Yeah. I had relation to live. So a couple of times.

00:25:37 Speaker 2

We went into it and.

00:25:39 Speaker 2

Went to with my mother 1st and I met him there and then later I went to with my family and they looked him up and met this man.

00:25:51 Speaker 1

When? When was it that you vacation last?

00:25:54 Speaker 1

How long did your friendship continue?

00:25:55 Speaker 2

How long?

00:25:58 Speaker 2

So.

00:26:01 Speaker 2

I'd say.

00:26:03 Speaker 2

We parted in in 1945.

00:26:07 Speaker 2

And.

00:26:09 Speaker 2

I'd say probably 1960. I didn't see that in 1960.

00:26:14 Speaker 1

So that's one time.

00:26:16 Speaker 1

Did you join a veterans organization?

00:26:19 Speaker 2

Yes, I still belong to American Legion.

00:26:25 Speaker 1

What did you go on to do as a career after that?

00:26:29 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:26:30 Speaker 2

I graduated from Purdue and I needed a job.

00:26:34 Speaker 2

And a close friend of my wife was at the wedding and said how do you like to look?

00:26:41 Speaker 2

At the.

00:26:41 Speaker 2

Post office. And so I said, well, fine. I need a job and I went to, I went to work as a special delivery carrier and that made and.

00:26:53 Speaker 2

Except for about 3 months.

00:26:56 Speaker 2

Well, I was laid off from the post office.

00:27:01 Speaker 2

I've been here ever since I was not clear on our postal employee.

00:27:07 Speaker 1

Save your military experience, influence. Influence your thinking about war or about military in general.

00:27:17 Speaker 2

Where is hell?

00:27:19 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:27:20

You know.

00:27:22 Speaker 2

But I I believe that the Second World War was absolutely essential, very necessary, very, very important, that we we did what we did.

00:27:32 Speaker 2

And I feel the same way about war. It shouldn't be done taken lightly, but there are times that that more may be necessary, such as right now in our war against terrorists. I feel it's necessary. Yeah, it's horrible and it's it's.

00:27:50 Speaker 2

It has to be done.

00:27:54 Speaker 1

And it's a in a veteran's organization. What kinds of activities does your posters association have?

00:28:02 Speaker 1

So within your within your veterans organization, what sort?

00:28:02 Speaker 2

Would you repeat that?

00:28:06 Speaker 1

Of activities, do you know?

00:28:08 Speaker 2

We seldom participate. We sometimes not. Lately we go to dinner at the at the market. We're building a new a new American Legion club here, and I intend to to be more active than now, or at least be more socially active.

00:28:26 Speaker 1

Do you attend reunions?

00:28:28 Speaker 2

We have no, we had no wins. No. I was in too many different branches, like the Air Force and and the inventory and. And the 80th Entry Division was only in existence for three years from the time it ended the war until the war.

00:28:48 Speaker 2

It was disbanded.

00:28:49 Speaker 2

So very, very little reunion involved in that.

00:28:58 Speaker 1

Experience in your life.

00:29:01 Speaker 2

Completely changed it, yeah.

00:29:05 Speaker 2

It.

00:29:07 Speaker 2

It caused me to to move from Elkhart to to Lafayette and I met my wife in Lafayette and raised a family there, and that probably would have never happened without the GI Bill.

00:29:22 Speaker 1

Is there anything else you would like?

00:29:24 Speaker 1

To add that we haven't.

00:29:25 Speaker 1

Covered in this interview.

00:29:29 Speaker 2

I can't.

00:29:30 Speaker 1

OK. Well, thank you, appreciate everything.

00:29:32 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:29:34 Speaker 1

That's all the questions.