

20th Century US Military Records



World War I	April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918
World War II	December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946
Korea	June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955
Vietnam	February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975
Lebanon	June 6, 1983 to December 1, 1987
Grenada	October 23, 1983 to November 21, 1983
Panama	December 20, 1989 to January 1, 1990
Persian	Gulf August 2, 1990 to November 30, 1995
War on Terrorism	September 11, 2001 to the present

1. What was the person's name? _____
2. When did he/she serve? _____
3. What unit did he/she serve in? _____
4. What was his/her Service Number? _____
5. What was his/her Social Security Number? _____
6. What other information do I have? _____
7. In what State did he/she enlist? _____

Key resources to get started:

Familysearch WIKI – GO TO https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Main_Page



Enter the name in quotes and genealogy and then search Example: “name” genealogy

GO TO: google.com



1 Order SERVICE RECORDS

1. National Archives
 1. For the Veteran or next of kin <http://archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs>
Next of kin is: Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Son, Daughter or un-remarried spouse/
 2. For others, use form SF180 <http://archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>



To find state and local military records that have been filmed, check the Family Search Library Catalog – use PLACE search and then Military Records
http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp



3 **WORLDWAR I only:**

1. Check for DRAFT REGISTRATION record
<http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=6482&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0>
2. Check 1930 U.S. Census
<http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=6224&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0>

4 **WORLD WAR II only:**

1. Check Army enlistment records
<http://aad.archives.gov/aad/series-description.jsp?s=3360&cat=GP23&bc=sl>
2. Check for DRAFT REGISTRATION records for 1942
<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1002>

5 **Check SOCIAL SECURITY DEATH BENEFITS RECORDS**

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.com/>

6 **Check MILITARY CEMETERIES (as appropriate) and “Lost at Sea”**

1. National Cemeteries <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>
2. Overseas Cemeteries <http://www.abmc.gov>

7 **Check with the County Court Clerk or County Recorder’s Office of person’s home county to see if any documents, such as a discharge, were recorded.**

8 **Search the Internet**

1. Service websites, Vet organizations, Unit websites, etc. Use www.google.com or any other good search engine.
2. Check Ancestry .com (subscription site)
<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=4691>
3. Check Fold3.com (subscription site, free at MFSL) <http://www.fold3.com/>
4. Check Heritage Quest.com (subscription site, free at MFSL)
<http://www.heritagequestonline.com/>

9 **Check links at Mesa Family Search Library**

http://mesafsl.org/slc_favorites/topics_military_records.html

10 **Make a plan - What are my next steps?**