

Welcome Back!

Welcome to our new and returning schools!

AncestryK12 offers free access for one year to all the original and primary documents of Ancestry's U.S. Collection, Fold3 and Newspapers.com for use in curriculum.

Ancestry is delighted to be able to work with you as you help your students discover their heritage, like this student at Lawrence Academy:

One of my favorite stories is of a student who can trace his mother's family line back to the Mayflower. His father's side was more of a mystery. Through using the Ancestry resources, he was able to discover that his great grandfather owed a farm in Massachusetts using the 1910 census. The great grandfather disappeared in the 1920 census. We were able to use the Newspaper.com resource to find an obituary for his great uncle. In the obituary is mentioned that the deceased man's father died as a result of an accident on the family farm. The K-12 grant allowed us to find the pieces of the puzzles to figure out what happened to this student's great grandfather. It was a very important discovery for the student.

This year we will be featuring stories from our schools and how they are using the program. If you have a story you'd like us to share with other schools, please contact us at ancestryk12@ancestry.com

Over the summer we have added two new associates to our program: [Civil War Trust](#) and [Together We Served](#)

In this newsletter we are featuring the program offered by Together We Served.

Save Our Veterans Stories On TogetherWeServed.org

A Unique and Rewarding Student Learning Program



The Mission

Every day, from a declining population of 19 million Veterans, over 3,000 Veterans from the WW2, Korea and Vietnam War eras pass away due to old age, illness, or lasting consequences of war. Now is a tremendously important moment to capture their military memories, while we still can, so that their children, grandchildren and future generations will have a lasting legacy of what they did during their service to our country.

U.S. Military Veteran Population 2014 to 2020 (Source VA.gov)

Date	WW2	Korean War	Vietnam War
9/30/2014	1,017,314	1,886,476	7,247,490
9/30/2015	847,419	1,739,129	7,102,850
9/30/2016	695,637	1,592,188	6,953,004
9/30/2017	562,172	1,446,119	6,797,480
9/30/2018	448,580	1,300,651	6,635,637
9/30/2019	355,919	1,156,117	6,467,052
9/30/2020	282,075	1,013,644	6,291,300

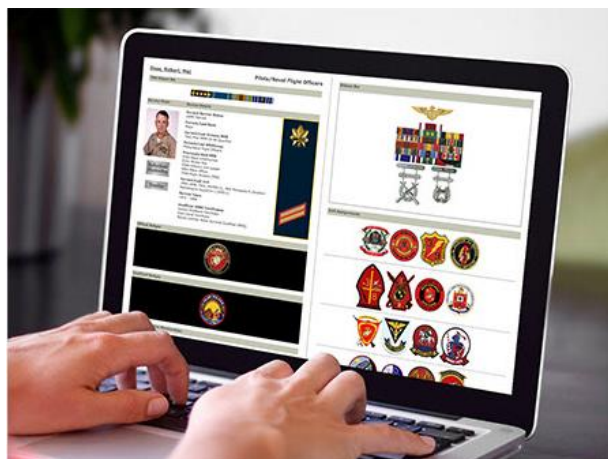
We are inviting all students, who are friends or family members of older military Veterans, to help achieve this goal by gathering key service information and photos of a Veteran

in their life with which they can create a beautiful, fully illustrated presentation of their military service on TogetherWeServed.org, one of the most significant collections of military service records and memories existing today.



The Together We Served Platform

Togetherweserved.org is a highly developed, web-based tool purpose-built to capture a Veteran's entire military service from boot camp to separation. Each military service page displays a Veteran's service photo, rank insignia, medals and awards displayed exactly as worn, all badges and patches, plus names, dates and locations of their boot camp, training schools, unit assignments, as well as any combat or non-combat operations they participated in.



One of the most satisfying results of creating a Military Service Page, is that you can easily

find other Veterans who went to the same boot camp as your Veteran, or served in the same units at the same time, thus leading to possible reunions.

In addition, all available photographs from their military service may be scanned and uploaded to their personal Photo Album. A step by step self-interview enables a Veteran to recall memories of people and events that had made an important impact on their lives. The result is a rich, visual presentation of the Veteran's entire military service, displayed in a unique 'shadow box' format which can be printed out and framed, or shared via a personal web address.

Gathering a Veteran's Information

Gathering a Veteran's military service information requires some research and organization. Together We Served has simplified the entire process by providing a downloadable, fully illustrated Help Guide/Workbook which enables the assisting person to work with their Veteran to identify and note down all major facets of their military service. Once gathered, this information is easily uploaded to their Veteran's Military Service Page. Any questions may be answered by Together We Served's administration staff who are available 7 days a week via an Online Help Desk.



A Gratifying Experience

Thousands of service-members have expressed that preserving their stories on Together We Served has been a rewarding and, in many cases, a cathartic experience for them. Since its launch in 2003, over 1.6 million Veterans have completed their military service page on Together We Served and contributed over 5 million personal photographs. Unlike any marble monument or government archive, their stories of courage and sacrifice come directly from the source – the men and women of a fast disappearing generation who so unselfishly served their country when called upon.

Together We Served is in a unique position to ensure that the military history of our Veteran population is preserved for posterity. However, time is not on our side. Only with the assistance of students, friends and family members engaging with a Veteran in their family or local community, can we hope to capture as many of our Veteran's stories as possible. If you have a Veteran in your life, please help to preserve their legacy today on TogetherWeServed.org!



Getting Started

Go [Together We Served](#) and click on [Start Now](#).

You will also want to reach out to [Diane Short](#) to get your school set up on the site.

Featured Program: Acton Elementary School

I had a lot of success using the websites we were given access to for a student genealogy project for 3rd-8th graders.



They researched their family tree, collected primary documents and photos that they found about their family on [Ancestryclassroom.com](#) and [Newspapers.com](#), and then presented their findings by creating a personal ancestry poster.



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