



*A Glorious Past...
Blessing A Brilliant Future*



148th Anniversary Reunion
July 20–27th, 2014
Denver, CO

Trooper Bruce Dennis

I was born and raised in Ardmore, Oklahoma and was drafted into the United States Army during the summer of 1942. I was put on the train with 75 other young men and we were not told where we were going! We arrived at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and were driven to Camp Lockett in Campo, California which is east of San Diego and north of the Mexican Border. Our motto was “Ready and Forward”.

After nineteen weeks of training, I was assigned to the weapons troop and mortar platoon in the 2nd and 10th Cavalry. I received commendations for expert shooting the 03 Rifle, 45 Pistol, 03 Carbines and the 81mm Mortar and was soon promoted to staff Sergeant. Our primary duty was to guard the Mexican Border against German and Japanese spies who were attempting to cross the border.

In the summer of 1944 we arrived at Casablanca, Africa under heavy bombarding, and moved to Rabat, Tangiers, Oran and Algiers. We were formed into the 1334 Combat team and sent to Naples, Italy and again were met with extreme bombarding.

While in Naples, Italy, I was attached to the 5th Army and entered into four battle zones; GO 35, WD45, Romano and North Appendices. From there I was sent to Rome, Italy to the Army Mine and Demolition Unit to train in the Anti-Personnel Mines and Tank Unit and was promoted to staff Sergeant. My platoon's job was removing mines and personnel mines. After one year, I returned to the United States and was deployed to Fort Lewis in McChord, Washington, where I trained recruits. In the summer of 1945, I was discharged and returned to Ardmore, Oklahoma.

I moved to Los Angeles, California in 1946 where I obtained a job at the United States Post Office as a mail carrier. After seven years, I began to work at the Department of Water and Power as a meter reader and after several years was promoted to Supervisor of the Field Investigation Unit. I also served on the Credit Union until I retired in 1995 after forty years of service.

While working at the Post Office in 1946, I married the love of my life Ruth, and we produced four children in addition to my one daughter from a previous marriage. I have five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. We moved to Altadena, California in 1965 where I continue to reside.