



CORPORAL FOREST DANIEL GREGG
U.S. MARINES - KOREAN WAR

Forest Daniel Gregg joined the U.S. Marines on at the age of 17 - fresh out of the hospital where he spent 2 months with a ruptured appendix. He decided he would go to the Marines and follow in the footsteps of so many of his family members.

His first assignment was at Camp Lajune, South Carolina where he excelled in marksmanship. He was then transferred to Marine Base Camp Pendleton, California where he was shipped out to Korea as part of the 1st Marine Division, "I" Co., 3rd Bn (Reinf). The last two major battles Forest was involved in took place on July 7-8th as the 1st Marine Division relieved the 25th Infantry Division and they took the outpost under heavy battle. Again on July 10-20, 1953, the enemy launched an assault against the outpost with a battalion strong force (including both North Communist Koreans and Chinese). After 4 1/2 hours of intense heavy fighting East Berlin and Berlin outposts were overrun and the action ceased with the enemy occupied the outpost. The company fell back to the rear around Hill 111 where they were, again ambushed by enemy combatants and fierce battle commenced, often times hand to hand battle. The post was held. On July 24, 1953 enemy forces again attacked with vehement action with the 1st Marine Division holding the post. Once again on the 26th of July the enemy probed the Marine Division but was repulsed once again. The last volleys of mortars were reported as incoming on the 27th but ceased as the July 27, 1953 "cease fire" became effective. As enemy forces received word of the cease fire being signed at nearby Panmunjom, Korea, they could be seen gathering their dead, waving lit candles and flashlights beckoning to the American Marines to come and celebrate with them. Needless to say, the Marines did not take part in the celebration with the enemy forces.

It was during this last battle that Forest often recalls a Chinese Communist coming at him with his bayonet fixed. "After five high powered rifle shots, he just kept coming and only stopped when he met the bayonet on the end of my rifle. I can still see his face in my mind. I often wonder if I will go to Heaven when I die after seeing that man die at my hand."

Forest leaves behind to cherish his memory, Daughter Sandra Landan (Michael); Daughter Pamela Walter (Rex); Daughter Elizabeth (Tina); and Son Clifford (Karson). Also he is survived by 7 grandchildren and several great grandchildren.

Corporal Gregg passed away from Alzheimer's and COPD in October 18, 2009.