



Army Air Corps

**Donald Charles Berkemeyer**  
**Corporal U.S. Army Air Corps**  
**19 November 1942 – 1946**

Donald was born on 25 April 1910 in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. In 1920 he was living with his family in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he completed two years of high school. In 1930 he and the family were living in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Sometime in 1932, Donald and his family moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania, where Donald played drums in a band and worked as an upholsterer prior to entering the Army. He was drafted into the Army Air Corps as a Private on 19 November 1942, and was sent to Miami, Florida, for basic training. He then served successively in Texas, where he received additional training; at Hill Field in New Mexico; and at Brookley Field near Mobile, Alabama. During World War II, Brookley Field was a modification and repair center for fighter and other military aircraft. Donald was assigned to an Aviation Repair unit at Brookley Field until he was discharged sometime in 1946. After Donald was discharged, he and his brother **Richard Gerald Berkemeyer**, who served in the Army in the Pacific Theater during World War II, opened their own automobile upholstery shop, the Berkemeyer Trim Shop, on 5th Street in Allentown. Donald and Richard, as well as their family, had close ties to the Hinkel Family of East Texas, Pennsylvania, where they are listed on the East Texas Sunday School Honor Roll of World War II Veterans. Donald married **Molly James** (14 June 1907 – 6 February 1970); they were living in Allentown with Donald's mother in 1946. They later moved to Louin, Mississippi, where they lived on a farm and upholstered furniture as a business. In 1970, after Molly died, Donald married **Leora Pugh** and remained in Mississippi. He died in Mississippi on 26 March 1971, a year after his marriage to Leora, and is buried in Antioch Cemetery in Jasper County, Mississippi, along with his first wife Molly. Donald had no children by either marriage. Donald's parents were **Alfred Donald Berkemeyer** (1 February 1884 – 21 June 1941) and **Grace Martha Reedy** (16 June 1884 – 16 May 1962).

August 22, 2006