



Army Corps of
Engineers Insignia

Jack Heil Knauss
Corporal U.S. Army
9 July 1953 – 18 May 1955

Jack was born on 3 May 1933 in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, where he attended grade school at Thaddeus Stevens School, Washington School, and Lincoln School. He graduated from Emmaus High School in 1953. During the summer of 1952 between his junior and senior years of high school, Jack worked as a Floor Boy for Phoenix Clothing Store in Allentown, Pennsylvania. After high school, he was drafted into the Army 9 July 1953 in Allentown as a Private, and was assigned to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for basic training. After he completed basic training, Jack was assigned to the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in September 1953, where he underwent advanced training as an Engineer Equipment Mechanic. He left Fort Belvoir in November 1953 for duty in Korea where he was assigned to Company A, 62nd Engineer Construction Battalion. He served in Korea for the duration of his active duty, most of the time north of Seoul at the village of Chun Yong Ne, and later at Kimpo Airfield in Seoul. While in Korea, Jack was responsible for maintaining and repairing engineer equipment for Company A. He returned to the States in May 1955 and was discharged as a Corporal on the May 18 at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland. Jack was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, and Korean Service Medal. After his discharge, Jack returned to live in Emmaus for two years and worked on the Leslie Howatt farm in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania, as a Landscaper from 7 June 1955 to 11 September 1955. He then went to work for Bethlehem Steel Corporation in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as a Mechanic where he was employed for over 37 years before retiring on 30 November 1992. Jack married **Shirley Mae Weil** (10 September 1935 – 4 August 2006) on 7 September 1957 at Moravian Church in Emmaus, and they went to live in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania, where they settled. Jack and Shirley raised three children: **Tracey**; **Scott Alan**; and **Glenn Jay**. Tracey won the 1976 competition to design the Lower Macungie Township seal. Jack's parents were **Samuel Paul Knauss Sr.** (23 February 1907 – February 1976) and **Viola Helen Heil** (1908 – 1971). Jack had five brothers who served in the Armed Forces: **Samuel Paul Jr.** in the Navy in 1944 during World War II; **Bruce Milton James** in the Navy in 1946; **Richard Allan** in the Army in 1947 in Korea; **Lee Heil** in the Marine Corps in 1953 in Korea; and **Keith David** in the Army during 1969 in Vietnam.