



Ronald Alan Newcomer
Corporal U.S. Army Reserve
21 October 1952 – 7 September 1954

Ronald was born on 5 May 1931 in Slatington, Pennsylvania. His parents were **Samuel Seifried Newcomer** (3 November 1905 – 3 July 1984) and **Claire Mae (Owens) Newcomer** (27 October 1907 – 12 February 1972). The family moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1935, where they lived until 1950. They then moved to Weilersville in Lower Macungie Township. After Ronald graduated from high school, he worked for Solmar Surgical Supply Company in Allentown until he enlisted in the Army Reserve in Allentown. He was inducted as a Private on 21 October 1952 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and assigned to the Medical Corps. After training, he was sent overseas to Korea, where he was assigned to B Company, 17th Infantry (“Buffalo”) Regiment, 7th Division. On 9 July 1952, just 18 days before the Korean War Armistice was signed, the 7th Division was heavily engaged with the Chinese Army, and Ronald was wounded while fighting near Chorwon, South Korea, just south of the border with North Korea. Ronald was wounded by fragments from a mortar round which hit him in the upper and lower left arm and in the right foot. He was evacuated to Japan, where he was hospitalized until 13 Oct 1953. Having served overseas for 13 months, Ronald returned to the States. He was released from active duty as a Corporal on 7 September 1954 at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and was transferred to the Army Reserve for duty with the 2nd Army which was headquartered at Fort Meade until he was discharged on 28 October 1960. In addition to the Purple Heart, Ronald was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Service Medal (w/1 bronze star), Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, and the Good Conduct Medal. After Ronald returned home, he went to live in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and worked for Eastern Airlines in Newark, New Jersey, as a Customer Service Representative. On 29 June 1963, he married **Ann Louise Smith** (15 October 1940 – 29 June 2010) in Slatington. In 1968, they established their permanent residence in Edison, New Jersey. Ronald retired from Eastern Airlines in 1986. He died of cancer the following year on 6 September 1987 in Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He is buried in Alpine Cemetery in Perth Amboy, New Jersey. Ronald and Ann had three children, **Lori Ann**, **Steven Ronald**, and **Susan Melinda (Newcomer) Thrift**. Three of Ronald’s brothers also served in the Armed Forces: **Owen Samuel** in the Army and Air Force; **David Owen** in the Army; and **Charles Samuel Alan** in the Marine Corps.