



28th Infantry Division

Thomas Isadore Kern Jr.
Private First Class U.S. Army
31 January 1951 – 29 December 1952

Thomas was born on 15 November 1928 in Allentown, Pennsylvania. After he completed grades 1-3 at Vera Cruz Elementary School in Vera Cruz, Pennsylvania, the family moved to Syracuse, New York, for six months. Half-way through the 4th grade, the family moved to Emmaus, Pennsylvania. After Thomas repeated the entire 4th grade in Emmaus, the family moved once again to East Texas, Pennsylvania, in Lower Macungie Township, where he attended grades 5-8 at the two-room schoolhouse in East Texas. In 1943, he entered Emmaus High School and graduated from there in 1947. After graduating from high school, Thomas went to work for Dorney Printing Company in East Texas as a Printer until he entered the Army. Thomas was drafted and inducted into the Army as a Private in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 31 January 1951. After completing Basic Training at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, he was ordered to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he attended Medical Field Service School from 21 June 1951 to 18 August 1951, graduating as a Medical Technician. He returned to Camp Atterbury where he was



Camp Atterbury – World War II Era

assigned to the Motor Pool as a Truck and Jeep Driver until he was transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for further transfer overseas. He left for Germany on 5 December 1951, and was assigned to Medical Company, Medical Battalion, 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. He served with the company at Hellbronn, Germany, as a Medical Technician for the remainder of his active duty service. Thomas returned to the States and was released from active duty on 29 December 1952 as a Private First Class at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, and was transferred to the Army Reserves for four years. Thomas was awarded the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany) and the National Defense Service Medal. He returned home to East Texas, and resumed working as a Printer at Dorney Printing (which later became Day-Timers Printing Company) until his retirement in 1991. Thomas married **Glenna Viola Kolb** (6 November 1931 – 3 March 2005) on 31 October 1954 in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania. Initially they lived in East Texas, and in 1960 they moved into a house they had built in Alburtis, where they settled. Glenna died of heart failure, and is buried at Grandview Cemetery in Allentown. Thomas had a stepson, **Glenn David Kolb**. Thomas's parents were **Thomas Isadore Kern Sr.** (7 January 1904 – 20 June 1980), and **Stella Irene Wambold** (23 December 1905 – 1 May 1981), both of whom are also buried at Grandview Cemetery in Allentown.