



Seventh Army



**Alvin Franklin Marsteller**  
**Staff Sergeant U.S. Army**  
**11 November 1942 - 30 November 1945**

Alvin was born on 22 March 1922 in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania, where he was raised and went to school. His family lived on Macungie Rt.1, where his father owned and operated a gas station near Kiechel's School on Lower Macungie Road, just east of Brookside



Marsteller's Gas Station with  
 Alvin standing in front

Road. Alvin graduated from Emmaus High School circa 1941, and attended Allentown Business College in Allentown, Pennsylvania, for one year prior to entering the Army. He enlisted in the Army as a Private in Allentown on 11 November 1942, and was assigned to Camp Iron Mountain, California, in the Mojave Desert for basic training, followed by Artillery training at Camp Gruber near Muskogee, Oklahoma. From there he was sent overseas. In late 1944, he was stationed in Northern Ireland, where the Allied Forces were building up and organizing for invasion of the European Continent

Continent. By that time he had risen to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Alvin was assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> Corps Artillery Headquarters, which supported the Seventh Army as it moved from France through Belgium and into Germany after the landings at Normandy, France. In June 1945, while in Germany, Alvin was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. As the war in Europe pushed to a conclusion, Alvin was in Southern France where he got to enjoy a rest from the war during September 1945 on the French Riviera before returning to the States for discharge. He was discharged as a Staff Sergeant at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation in Pennsylvania on 30 November 1945. In addition to his Bronze Star, Alvin was awarded the American Campaign Medal, European-Africa-Middle Eastern Medal, and World War II Victory Medal. Alvin married **Arlene Grace Rex** (born 15 July 1921) of Whitehall, Pennsylvania, on 23 February 1946 in Neffs Union Church, in Neffs, Pennsylvania. Alvin and Arlene had a daughter, **Judith Ann Marsteller**. After the war, Alvin worked briefly at Mack Trucks, and then went to work at Eastern Light Company (a furniture and appliance store with stores in Bethlehem and Allentown) and became Manager of the Bethlehem store until his death. Alvin was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 792 in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. Alvin died on 15 November 1977. He is buried in Western Salisbury Church Cemetery in Salisbury Township, Pennsylvania. After Alvin's death, Arlene married **Standley C. Lichtenwalner** (1912 – 10 September 2004). Alvin's parents were **Wallace Scott Marsteller** (1902 – 1959) and **Reda Jemina Christman** (25 March 1904 – February 1980).