



National Defense  
Service Medal



Army Engineer Corps

**Philip Curtis Romig**  
**Specialist 4 U.S. Army**  
**2 February 1958 – 2 February 1960**  
**17 October 1961 - 14 July 1962**

Philip was born on 30 January 1935 in the Allentown, Pennsylvania, Hospital while his family was living on a farm on Kressler Road between Wescosville and Minesite in Lower Macungie Township. He attended grammar school in Minesite until his family moved to a farm on Route 100. He completed grades 4 ó 8 at Fogel School south of the farm on Route 100. He completed 9<sup>th</sup> grade at Lincoln Jr. High School in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, and then went to work on the family farm and surrounding farms in the area whenever possible. At the age of 18, Philip went to work as a truck driver for R. P. Hutchinson in Macungie, Pennsylvania, delivering heating oil to area homes. In 1956 he began driving truck for Northstein Brothers in Trexlertown, Pennsylvania, hauling construction materials until he was drafted and inducted into the Army as a Private on 2 February 1958 at Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Philip's initial assignment was at Fort Dix, New Jersey, where he underwent basic training and was assigned to the Engineer Corps. He operated heavy equipment at Fort Dix until his discharge there on 2 February 1962 at the end of his two-year obligated active-duty service and was transferred to the Army Reserve for four years. While stationed at Fort Dix, Philip earned his high school diploma through the General Educational Development (GED) program. Prior to his discharge, Philip married **Janice Louise Merkel** (born 12 April 1939) on 22 August 1959 in Zion Lehigh Church near Alburtis, Pennsylvania, while he was home on leave. After his discharge Philip resumed driving truck for Northstein Brothers. He and Janice lived with Janice's parents for a while until moving into an apartment on Chestnut Street in Emmaus. Philip was recalled to active duty one year and eight months later on October 17. He was assigned to Company B, 983<sup>rd</sup> Engineering Battalion (Combat Engineers) at Fort Meade, Maryland. While at Fort Meade, he was also assigned temporary duty with the Post Engineers at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and Camp Pickett, Virginia. Philip was discharged at Fort Meade on 14 July 1962 and was once again assigned to the Army Reserve. He resumed driving truck for Northstein Brothers. In 1964 Philip and Janice moved to Buckeye Road in Upper Milford Township where they settled. Philip retired from Northstein Brothers in 1991. Philip is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He is an avid collector of John Deere tractors and equipment, as well as toy John Deere cars and trucks. Philip organized the East Central Pennsylvania two-cylinder John Deere Club. He also helped organize the East Penn Taxpayers Association, and he remains active as a commentator for a local newsletter and newspaper. Philip and Janice had four children: **Timothy Philip**, **Cheryl Jan**, **Tracy Jan**, and **Coral Jan**. Philip's parents were **Oliver Joseph Romig** (6 March 1891 ó 1 April 1967) and **Bessie Margaret Faust** (9 November 1896 ó 31 May 1977). Philip's brother, **Peter Oliver Romig**, served in the Marine Corps during the late 1950s.