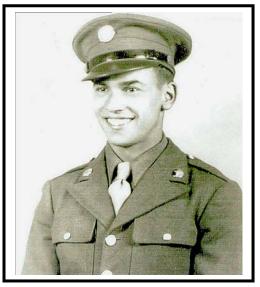




American WW II Victory Campaign Medal Medal





William Franklin Deibert Jr. Corporal U.S. Army 11 October 1943 – 8 May 1946

William was born on 18 April 1925 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he and his family lived until 1936, when they moved to a farm near Minesite, Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania, that his great-grandfather, Aaron Kuhns, had established and had been in the family for four generations. William attended grades 1-6 at Jackson and Franklin Schools, grades 7-9 at Raub Junior High School, and grades 10-11 at Allentown High School. William then attended Muhlenberg College in Allentown for a one-year accelerated course as a Pre-Dental Student before returning to Allentown High School to graduate with the Class of 1943. He was drafted into the Army on 11 October 1943, and went on active duty as a Private on 1 November 1943. Initially he was assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Student Training Regiment where he attended West Point Preparatory School in Easton, Pennsylvania, and at Fort Benning, Georgia, for six months, but was then ordered to Camp Barkeley near Abilene, Texas, for four months for Medical Basic Training with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Student Training Regiment. He remained at Camp Barkeley for the remainder of his active duty, rising to the rank of Corporal and serving there with the 71<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 17<sup>th</sup> Medical Training Regiment, as Medical Non-Commissioned Officer. While there, he supervised operation of a hospital unit, supervised Army Medics in the administration, care, and treatment of hospitalized personnel, and instructed personnel in basic medical duties including first aid and nursing care. He was discharged as a Corporal at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on 8 May 1946. He returned home and then enrolled in the General Motors Institute of Technology at Kettering, Michigan, where he majored in Dealer Management, earning the Alumni Achievement Award in 1946. While there, William met his future wife, Alma P. Prior (born 22 April 1924). They were married on 30 August 1947 in Flint, Michigan, and made their home on the family farm. In 1947, William went to work for his father's company, William Deibert Trucks, Inc., in Allentown, first as a Shop Foreman for three years, then as a Sales Manager from 1950 to 1956, and finally as President of the company until his retirement in 1996. He then leased the company to Bergey, GMC, until selling the land and the building to Daniels BMW in 2005. William and Alma have three daughters: Linda Lee, Judith Rae, and Pamela **Ann** and five grandchildren. In addition to living on the family farm, they enjoy their cottage at Porters Lake, Pennsylvania, during the summer months, and a home in Scottsdale, Arizona, during the winter months. William's parents were William Franklin Deibert Sr. (9 May 1888 – 28 Aug 1956), and **Alma Florence Kuhns** (20 February 1901 – 27 March 1986). William's father served in the Army during World War I, and his cousin Robert Fegley served in the Army during World War II.