



Combat Infantryman Badge



Korean Service Medal



United Nations Service Medal



Signal Corps



7th Infantry Division

Dennis Earl Gehman
Corporal U.S. Army
3 December 1947 – 12 May 1952

Dennis was born on 23 September 1929 in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania. He attended grades 1 to 7 at the one-room Fogel Schoolhouse on Route 100 from 1935 to 1943, followed by 8th grade in Wescosville, Pennsylvania, one semester of 9th grade at Emmaus High School in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, and another semester of 9th grade at Kutztown High School in Kutztown, Pennsylvania. He then went to work from 1945 to 1947 as a Farm Hand on Stine Brothers Farm located on Spring Creek Road in Lower Macungie. Dennis enlisted in the Army in Allentown, Pennsylvania, on 3 December 1947 as a Private while he was living in Center Valley, Pennsylvania. Dennis was assigned to the 37th Signal Company at Camp Gordon, Georgia, for basic training and training as a Cable Splicer in the Signal Corps. On 3 March 1948 he was transferred to Ft. Dix, New Jersey, where he attended Leadership School and then to Ft. Myer, Virginia, where he was assigned to the Presidential Honor Guard, performing ceremonies at Presidential functions, the burial of Veterans at Arlington Cemetery, and other official government functions. In June 1950, Dennis was transferred to the 7th Infantry (“Bayonets”) Division in Japan where the Division was stationed and performing occupation duties and training prior to the outbreak of the Korean Conflict. On 15 September 1950, the Division participated in the invasion of Korea at Inchon. After moving inland and securing Seoul, Korea, on 30 September 1950, the Division deployed to Pusan where it trained for the landing at Iwon on 29 October 1950. After the landing at Iwon, the Division, along with other United Nations (UN) Forces, rapidly pushed their way northward. On 21 November 1950, the 27th Division reached the Yalu River along the Korean border with China. With the entry of Chinese Communist Forces into the conflict on 27 November 1950, the 7th Division and the other UN Forces were pushed back toward South Korea, with the 27th Division engaging the Chinese Army in the Chechon-Tanyand-Chungju area and the Kumhwa Valley in early and mid-1951, and in the well-known Battle of Heartbreak Ridge, a month-long bloody battle fought between 13 September and 15 October 1951 in the hills of North Korea a few miles north of the 38th parallel. Dennis was wounded in action on 16 April 1951 in North Korea. He left Korea in October 1951 and returned to the States for discharge at Camp Polk, Louisiana, on 12 May 1952. After his discharge, Dennis lived in Mertztown, Pennsylvania, until August 1962 when he moved to and settled in Orefield, Pennsylvania. He worked for Warren-Ehret Roofing Company from 1952 to 1980, after which time he became a self-employed roofer until he retired in 2001. Dennis married **Yolanda Novicki** (born 20 July 1935) on 7 May 1956 in St. Paul’s Union Church in Trexlertown, Pennsylvania. He became a founding and life-time member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Breinigsville and was a member of the Trexlertown Masonic Lodge since 1962. Dennis was one of twelve children (six sons and six daughters) born to **Paul Clarence Gehman** (7 November 1881 – 20 June 1970) and **Anna M. Weaver** (1 October 1890 – 23 February 1942). Three of Dennis’s brothers served in the Army: **Warren D. Gehman** and **Paul Clarence Gehman Jr.** during the late 1940s, and **Homer Daniel Gehman** during World War II.