



35th Infantry

Paul Kenneth Haines
Corporal U.S. Army
June 1944 – June 1946

Paul was born on 24 October 1924 in Cetronia, Pennsylvania. He attended grades 1 to 11 in South Whitehall, Pennsylvania, and completed his senior year of high school at Perkiomen Preparatory School in 1944. Right after Paul graduated from high school he was drafted in June 1944, and was inducted at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. After basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, Paul was assigned the specialty of Interrogator-Military Government, a specialty based on his knowledge of Pennsylvania German. He was ordered to Company C, 134th Infantry Regiment, 35th Infantry Division, which had previously fought at the Normandy Beachhead on 6 June 1944, the D-Day invasion. The Regiment found itself engaged in the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes Forest and fought battles in Luxemburg, Belgium, and Holland before crossing the Rhine River into Germany and the Ruhr Valley, eventually ending at the Elbe River just north of Berlin. From June 1944 until April 27, 1945, the Regiment advanced over 1500 combat miles and captured over 9000 German prisoners of war, while losing 10,046 American soldiers in combat. In the accomplishment of its primary mission, meeting the enemy in battle and defeating them, the 134th Infantry fought under eight Corps; the V, XIX, XX, XII, III, XVI, XV, and the XXIII, and four Armies; the First, Third, Ninth, and Fifteenth. During the War, Paul's responsibility was to interrogate the German prisoners while in the front lines. After the war ended, he was sent back to the Province of Hanover, Germany, to govern 13 German towns in order to re-establish Germany's basic civil needs such as opening schools and factories, providing fuel supplies, enforcing civil law, etc. He also was responsible for sending all the displaced persons back to their home countries. In addition to the Combat Infantryman Badge and a Presidential Unit Citation, Paul was awarded several medals including the Bronze Star, American Campaign, World War II Victory, European-African Middle Eastern Campaign, and World War II Occupation Medals. Paul returned to the States for discharge at Indiantown Gap in June 1946 and initially lived in Cetronia. He then attended Ursinus College in Collegetown, Pennsylvania, for four years, graduating in 1949 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduation he bought Haines Gas Company from his brother who operated Haines Appliance Company in Cetronia. In 1960 Haines Gas Company merged with Trexler Gas Company of East Greenville, and soon thereafter Paul became President of Trexler-Haines, Incorporated, a position he held until he retired in 1991. Paul married **Madlyn Alice Leibensperger** (born 27 June 1926) in 1947 in Cetronia, where they lived until 1957. They then moved to settle in Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania. Paul and Madlyn had two sons, **Allen Haines** and **John Haines**. Paul's parents were **Ira Jacob Haines** (1889 – 1957) and **Ida Elizabeth Grim** (28 October 1892 – 22 March 1989). Paul's brother **Wilber Jacob Haines** served in the Navy during World War II, and another brother, **Albert Peter Haines**, served in the Army in Korea.