



**Donald Freeman Heffner**  
**Technician 4 U.S. Army**  
**14 February 1945 – 26 Nov. 1946**

Donald was born at home on 3 September 1926 in Emmaus, Pennsylvania. He attended 1<sup>st</sup> grade in Breinigsville, Pennsylvania; Washington Elementary School in Emmaus from 1933 to 1939; Lincoln Junior High School in Emmaus from 1939 to 1941; and Emmaus High School from 1941 to 1945. He was drafted and inducted into the Army as a Private on 14 February 1945 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, just three months prior to the end of his senior year of high school. Nevertheless, he was included in the school yearbook in uniform and awarded his high school diploma while he was undergoing training. He received basic training at Camp Croft, South Carolina, which was followed by advanced training as a Stock Record Clerk at Ordnance Supply Clerk School in Savanna, Illinois. He was then ordered to Korea, leaving the States from Oakland, California, on 16 October, 1945, aboard a merchant ship leased by the Government, and arrived in Korea on 9 November 1945. Donald landed at Inchon, South Korea, and was assigned to 81<sup>st</sup> Ordnance Battalion, Army Support Command, located 20 miles south of Seoul, where he served as a Stock Record Clerk responsible for maintaining records for the requisition and issue of ordnance and other materiel for tanks, trucks, and jeeps. Donald left Korea on 3 October 1946, returning to Oakland on 16 October 1946 for further transfer to Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, for discharge. He was discharged at Fort Meade on 26 November 1946 as a Technician 4, and was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and Army Occupation Medal (Japan). Donald returned home to Emmaus, and went to work for Mack Trucks Company in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as a Stock Record Clerk from 1947 to 1948 before joining General Electric Company in Allentown in April 1949 as a Draw Press Operator. He remained at General Electric until 19 May 1951, and then went to work for Air Products and Chemicals in Trexlertown, Pennsylvania, as a Woodworker-Maintenance Man until October 1985 before retiring. Donald married **Irene Haas Reifsnyder** on 6 May 1950. They lived in Dorneyville in South Whitehall Township, Pennsylvania, from 1952 to 1985, when they moved to and settled in Macungie, Pennsylvania. Donald and Irene had five children; **Donna May**, **Terry Lee**, **Janis Linda**, **Larry Donald**, and **Todd Edward**. Donald became a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9264, where he served as Post Commander (1997 to 1998); Lower Lehigh Lions Club, where he served as President (1999 to 2000); Macungie Senior Citizens, where he served as President (1995 to 2000); Emmaus Senior Citizens, where he also served as President (2003 to 2008); and American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Lower Lehigh 4150. Donald also was Cub Master of Cub Scout Pack 38 (1964 to 1967). Donald's parents were **Freeman Heffner** (30 November 1903 – 28 August 1992) and **Pearl Annie Fink** (15 March 1907 – 4 November 1992). Donald's brother, **Arlan Edward Heffner**, served in the Army from 1956 to 1959. His uncle, **Paul Heffner**, served in the Army during World War II, and two other uncles served during World War I; **Alfred Daniel Sylvester Fink** in the Army, and **Robert Charles Fink** in the Navy.