



Robert John Lee Hoffman Jr.
Corporal (T) U. S. Army
26 February 1952 – 6 February 1954

Robert was born at home on 7 December 1928 in Catasauqua, Pennsylvania, where he attended grade school and high school. He left high school in 1945 after his junior year, and went to work as a Truck Driver for Hertz Supply Company in Allentown, Pennsylvania. On 1 May 1948, Robert married **Grace Agnes Leibensperger** (born 4 January 1932) in Salem Church in East Texas, Pennsylvania, in Lower Macungie Township. They were living in East Texas when Robert was drafted into the Army. He entered the Army as a Private on 26 February 1952, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. After completing basic training at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky, Robert was ordered overseas where he was assigned to 1505 Service Battery, 756th Field Artillery (FA) Battalion. The 756th FA Battalion had previously left for Europe on 20 February 1952, and was stationed at Baumholder, Germany, where it was assigned to Seventh Army, and was attached to V Corps and the 142nd FA Group. The 142nd FA Group was serving as part of the post-World War II Allied Occupation Forces in Germany. The 756th FA Battalion was equipped with 8 inch self-propelled M43 Howitzers. In January 1953, Robert's Battalion relocated from Baumholder Barracks to Wertheim, Germany, about 30 miles West of Würzburg, Germany. Robert remained there until he returned to the States for discharge at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, on 6 February 1954. He was then transferred to the Army Reserves, in which he served until February 1960. He was awarded the Army of Occupation Medal (Germany) and the National Defense Service Medal. Robert returned home to East Texas, where he and Grace rented an apartment until 1961. They then rented a duplex home on Brookside Road (now 864 Brookside Road) in Wescosville, Pennsylvania, also in Lower Macungie Township. In 1975, they purchased the home from the owner's estate, and remained there permanently. After returning home from Germany, Robert worked at several full-time jobs including, once again, Hertz Supply Company as a Truck Driver; Knoll, Inc., in East Greenville, Pennsylvania, as a Dock Worker; Perkiomen Transfer Company in Allentown as a Dock Worker and Truck Driver; Leibensperger Transportation Company in East Texas as a Bus Driver and Mechanic; and Dorney Printing (later Day-Timers, Inc.) in East Texas (where Grace was also employed) as a Custodian and later in the Shipping Department. Robert also worked part-time as a Bartender at Ibach's Tavern in East Texas at the intersection of Lower Macungie and Brookside Roads. Robert and Grace both retired from Day-Timers in 1991, after which Robert continued to work part-time for McNabb's Service Station in Wescosville pumping gas and running errands until September 2008. Robert and Grace had four children: **Linda Louise, Donald Thomas, Jerry Lee, and Dale Robert**; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Robert spent a lot of time with his family, and loved to travel to North Carolina to visit sons Donald and Dale where they were living. Robert died of cancer on 9 November 2008 in his Wescosville home in the company of his family. He was a member of Jerusalem Western Salisbury Church in Allentown, and was buried in the church's cemetery with military honors. Robert was a member of the Wescosville, Kutztown, and Macungie Fire Companies and the Ray A. Master American Legion Post 9264 in Topton, Pennsylvania. He was an avid National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing fan. Robert's parents were **Robert John Lee Hoffman Sr.** (23 March 1904 – September 1952) and **Catherine Suzanne Heckman** (22 February 1899 – November 1976).



8-inch Self-propelled Howitzer