



**Owen Samuel Newcomer**  
**Airman 1/C U.S. Air Force**  
**16 November 1945 – 17 December 1953**

Owen was born on 2 February 1928, in Slatington, Pennsylvania. His parents were **Samuel Seifried Newcomer** (3 November 1905 – 3 July 1984) and **Claire Mae (Owens) Newcomer** (27 October 1907 – 12 February 1972). The family moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1935, where they lived until 1950. They then moved to Weilersville on Alburtis Route # 1 in Lower Macungie Township. Upon graduating from Allentown High School in Allentown, Owen was drafted into the Army Air Corps on 16 November 1945 as a Private. He was assigned to Recruit Training Center, Fort McClellan, Alabama, for basic training with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Company, 26<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry (“Bobcats”) Regiment. After basic training he underwent specialty training as a Sheet Metal Worker and was assigned to the 1103<sup>rd</sup> Army Air Force Base Unit at Morrison Field, Florida, where he performed aircraft repair and maintenance. He was separated from the Army Air Corps on 5 May 1947. He then had a break in service until 28 February 1950, when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, which had been established as a separate service on 18 September 1947. He then attended a two-month Medical Laboratory Technician course at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in March and April 1950, and then was then transferred to the 19<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, in which he initially was assigned as a Tail Gunner for B-29 bomber aircraft. When the Korean War broke out, in June 1950, the 19<sup>th</sup> Bomber Group initially deployed its B-29s to Anderson Air Force Base on Guam. The B-29 Bomber Squadrons soon left for Kadena Air Base on Okinawa in the Ryukyu Islands, while Owen’s unit remained on Guam to provide maintenance for transient aircraft and to operate ammunition dumps for the rest of the war. Owen served on Guam for a year and eight months before returning to the States for assignment to Air Training Command at Perrin Air Force Base (AFB) in Sherman, Texas, for duty with the 3555<sup>th</sup> Basic Pilot Training Wing. In June 1952, he was reassigned duties as an Air Policeman with the 3555<sup>th</sup> Air Police Squadron at Perrin AFB until his discharge on 17 December 1953 as Airman 1/C. He returned home to live in Weilersville. He then worked, successively, for Adams Women’s Wear in Allentown as a general handyman for a number of years, Sears Warehouse in Allentown loading and unloading trucks, and the Allentown Hospital, where he did housekeeping work and drove a transport vehicle until his retirement in 1993. Owen died at his home in Weilersville on 17 September 1999. He is buried in Union Cemetery in Slatington, Pennsylvania. Owen had three brothers who also served in the Armed Forces: **David Owen** and **Ronald Alan** (who was wounded in action in Korea) in the Army, and **Charles Samuel** in the Marine Corps.



Perrin Air Force Base - 1952