

**Arthur Lakes, Jr. Interview**

Company E, 317th Inf Reg

*(Library of Congress: Veterans History Project; interviewed by Arthur M. Huff)*

(MS Word Audio Transcript [NOT edited, just transcribed])

00:00:03

Good morning.

00:00:03 Speaker 1

My name is stretch Hoff.

00:00:05 Speaker 1

I'm the interviewer for the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, and this morning, December 18th, I have a pleasure of talking with Arthur Lakes.

00:00:18 Speaker 1

I.

00:00:20 Speaker 1

Operator today is Dennis Daily and Arthur's son Mark is also here with us.

00:00:29 Speaker 1

So good morning.

00:00:33 Speaker 1

Not quite.

00:00:36 Speaker 1

I guess let's just start.

00:00:39 Speaker 1

Off with your early years where you were born and raised and I.

00:00:44 Speaker 2

Was born and Legended you, Lexington, KY.

00:00:49 Speaker 2

When I was three years old, we moved to Elmwood Place and.

00:00:53 Speaker 1

That's where Elmwood place Cincinnati.

00:00:55 Speaker 2

And.

00:00:57 Speaker 2

Cincinnati, where Saint Bernard is.

00:01:00 Speaker 1

Yes.

00:01:01 Speaker 2

It's just past Saint Bernard.

00:01:05 Speaker 2

And I lived there for years.

00:01:10 Speaker 2

And then World War 2 come.

00:01:16 Speaker 2

Moved, we moved to Carthage, which is part of Cincinnati.

00:01:21 Speaker 2

Just north of Elmwood Place.

00:01:25 Speaker 2

And lived there a couple years and then I was drafted in World War 2.

00:01:32 Speaker 1

So did you word you go?

00:01:33 Speaker 1

High school.

00:01:34 Speaker 2

Mechanical high.

00:01:36 Speaker 2

What's the trade school zone?

00:01:37 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:01:39 Speaker 2

Ave.

00:01:39 Speaker 2

OK.

00:01:41 Speaker 2

And it's not there anymore.

00:01:44 Speaker 1

Evaporated my old high school's not very Kroger parking lot right now.

00:01:51 Speaker 2

I don't know what their. I think there's a big building there well.

00:01:55 Speaker 2

McCann, I told you. Used to be.

00:01:57 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:02:00 Speaker 1

Now what?

00:02:00 Speaker 1

What did you do after high school?

00:02:03 Speaker 2

Well, after high school I.

00:02:07 Speaker 2

You don't want a dog.

00:02:12 Speaker 1

Well.

00:02:12 Speaker 2

I worked in a gambling home. Really.

00:02:16 Speaker 2

Yeah. For a couple years.

00:02:19 Speaker 1

Uh huh. Was it in the Cincinnati area here?

00:02:21 Speaker 2

Yeah. What was Elmer Place and that's.

00:02:26 Speaker 2

Just more or less incinerate.

00:02:30 Speaker 2

I worked there for. I got drafted in the army. What year?

00:02:34 Speaker 1

Was that you got drafted?

00:02:37 Speaker 2

1950 I guess I was 18. It was.

00:02:41 Speaker 2

A minute 1942.

00:02:44 Speaker 2

18 week after I was 18 and I was born in February.

00:02:50 Speaker 2

The cat was 18. I strapped it.

00:02:53 Speaker 1

OK.

00:02:55 Speaker 1

Then.

00:02:56 Speaker 1

Tell me about.

00:02:58 Speaker 1

Where did you go for your training?

00:03:01 Speaker 2

For the hortic.

00:03:05 Speaker 2

Well, I went out West.

00:03:09 Speaker 2

What is? I forget the name of.

00:03:12 Speaker 2

Place out there out there for a while and ended up at Fort Dixon and shipped overseas from there.

00:03:21 Speaker 1

And where did you leave the United States?

00:03:24 Speaker 1

Ship from.

00:03:25 Speaker 1

What port?

00:03:28 Speaker 2

He said from Fort Dix, new.

00:03:32 Speaker 2

Jersey around Atlantic City or something?

00:03:36 Speaker 2

New York or someplace, I don't know.

00:03:39 Speaker 1

Now was this build up? Did you go to France, you say?

00:03:43 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:03:44 Speaker 1

OK.

00:03:46 Speaker 1

Tell me.

00:03:47 Speaker 1

Just tell me your story as you go through there.

00:03:50 Speaker 2

Well.

00:03:52 Speaker 2

In France and then.

00:03:56 Speaker 2

They invaded.

00:03:59 Speaker 2

Your France, they invaded France. As in England, they invaded France and D2. I went over.

00:04:09 Speaker 1

So you were in the second day after.

00:04:11 Speaker 2

After they invaded France.

00:04:15 Speaker 1

And that was at Omaha Beach.

00:04:17 Speaker 2

Yeah. OK.

00:04:19 Speaker 1

So did you come from England?

00:04:22 Speaker 1

Over to France?

00:04:23 Speaker 2

OK, did not was a scout.

00:04:28 Speaker 2

And I went through France scout and I went into hedgerows.

00:04:36 Speaker 2

Which is terrible.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

Never know what you're going to see in the edge rose.

00:04:44 Speaker 2

They were like.

00:04:46 Speaker 2

One on each side, obviously saved by the 150 yard farm or something.

00:04:54 Speaker 2

You on one side and the Germans on the other side.

00:04:57 Speaker 2

Could hear them talking.

00:04:59 Speaker 2

You said on one side in the evening, hear the Germans talking over on the other side in the evening.

00:05:04 Speaker 1

Oh my God.

00:05:07 Speaker 2

That went on for a while.

00:05:09 Speaker 1

Did you have those clickers? They talked about it.

00:05:11 Speaker 1

That just a paratroopers when they first.

00:05:14 Speaker 2

I didn't have nothing.

00:05:15 Speaker 2

I just had my rifle.

00:05:19 Speaker 2

And I carried.

00:05:21 Speaker 2

With me a little coffee saying to keep coffee hot.

00:05:27 Speaker 2

And I'd fill that up every day and carry that with me, with my pack.

00:05:33 Speaker 2

And I'd have coffee every day.

00:05:36 Speaker 2

Ever rushwall.

00:05:37 Speaker 2

My buddies would bomb a cup off of me and I had a little stove where I heated my coffee.

00:05:44 Speaker 1

Is that right?

00:05:45 Speaker 1

Where'd you get the coffee?

00:05:47 Speaker 2

Just I'd bump it off of trucks or anybody I could.

00:05:53 Speaker 2

Going through France.

00:05:56 Speaker 1

Umm, tell me about the day you landed on the second day of the invasion.

00:06:02 Speaker 1

Were the beaches like then?

00:06:05 Speaker 2

When I walked over to her bodies laying around.

00:06:09 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:06:11 Speaker 2

And.

00:06:11 Speaker 2

Yeah, I could see the body stiff.

00:06:13 Speaker 2

Other body still there.

00:06:17 Speaker 2

And you can see it on shows. Sometimes this bodies laying around and.

00:06:22 Speaker 1

It's a tough thing to see.

00:06:25 Speaker 2

Just have to go.

00:06:27 Speaker 1

Now what?



00:06:30 Speaker 1

Kind of a.

00:06:31 Speaker 1

Were you on when you?

00:06:33 Speaker 1

Was it the Liberty ships or the LS TS or?

00:06:39 Speaker 2

LS TS or less?

00:06:41 Speaker 2

OK.

00:06:43 Speaker 1

And then what was on those ships? What were you?

00:06:46 Speaker 2

Just does OK.

00:06:48 Speaker 1

So it wasn't any of the equipment or anything was just.

00:06:50 Speaker 2

Just soldered soldiers.

00:06:54 Speaker 2

We got off and.

00:06:58 Speaker 2

The beach was cleared there, but the bodies were still there and then we got.

00:07:05 Speaker 2

First village and we start fighting.

00:07:09 Speaker 1

OK so.

00:07:12 Speaker 1

Was that so? When you first got there is all the equipments being unloaded and so forth and but the fighting was somewhat inland at that point?

00:07:20 Speaker 2

But nothing far.

00:07:21 Speaker 1

Well, too far.

00:07:22 Speaker 2

Not at the 100 yards or so.

00:07:24 Speaker 1

Is that all? Yeah.

00:07:26 Speaker 1

What is?

00:07:27 Speaker 2

Like there's villages right there on the beach.

00:07:30 Speaker 2

Got through the bit.

00:07:32 Speaker 2

Village and you start fighting in the hedgerows. That's where hedgerows.

00:07:39 Speaker 1

And how long were you in?

00:07:41 Speaker 1

Hedgerows that that was a big guy A.

00:07:43 Speaker 2

I don't exactly know.

00:07:45 Speaker 2

I mean, I just.

00:07:47 Speaker 2

Fought and went.

00:07:48 Speaker 2

We just fought and went.

00:07:50 Speaker 2

We we don't know his last win or what we had our mind on the war. Sure.

00:07:59 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:08:01 Speaker 1

Do you?

00:08:04 Speaker 1

Were you a scout at that point?

00:08:07 Speaker 2

Not exactly at that point. I was like, I mean.

00:08:11 Speaker 2

Must been a month or so.

00:08:14 Speaker 2

The other scouts got killed.

00:08:16 Speaker 2

And I was the only one with combat experience. We kept getting people in.

00:08:25 Speaker 2

New people.

00:08:27 Speaker 1

But all your experiences right there wasn't.

00:08:29 Speaker 1

Yeah, you got. You were in. That was your first theater or whatever.

00:08:34 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:08:35 Speaker 1

I call it.

00:08:35 Speaker 2

That's where where I learned.

00:08:36 Speaker 1

And that's.

00:08:38 Speaker 1

And you were the most experienced 1.

00:08:40 Speaker 1

Just landed.

00:08:41 Speaker 2

I think there were.

00:08:42 Speaker 2

Seven of us left, and I don't know the original.

00:08:48 Speaker 2

Platoon.

00:08:52 Speaker 2

And if manner says art, you're the only one that.

00:08:56 Speaker 2

To get ahead and still I didn't say nothing.

00:09:00 Speaker 2

Just you don't say.

00:09:01 Speaker 2

You just do as you're told.

00:09:03 Speaker 1

Say yes Sir, and.

00:09:04 Speaker 2

Go on.

00:09:06 Speaker 2

And I was a scout until that.

00:09:10 Speaker 1

Where you scout all through your service in the war.

00:09:13 Speaker 2

More or less.

00:09:14 Speaker 1

Tell us what a scout does.

00:09:18 Speaker 2

He goes out in front, keeps out of sight, and watches what the where the Germans are and what they're doing.

00:09:26 Speaker 2

And it reports back what he saw on where they are and where the.

00:09:31 Speaker 2

All the big artillery is and where the machine guns are. And you let them know so they know what they're getting into. And so they know what to decide to do before they jump on.

00:09:43

Mm.

00:09:45 Speaker 2

And I did that until they got wounded myself.

00:09:51 Speaker 1

We talked earlier and just I'd like you to tell it again about your.

00:09:57 Speaker 1

When you were in that house and you were hiding in the basement? Yeah.

00:10:02 Speaker 1

Tell us that again, please.

00:10:03 Speaker 2

Well, I was.

00:10:06 Speaker 2

Went in this.

00:10:08 Speaker 2

I don't know, I thought.

00:10:09 Speaker 2

Saint law.

00:10:12 Speaker 2

Ren.

00:10:13 Speaker 2

Went a lot of villages.

00:10:15 Speaker 2

The Germans were coming back and all I could do was hide.

00:10:21 Speaker 2

And he had in the basement.

00:10:24 Speaker 2

Behind a bunch of boxes and the Germans were up above and one of them come down, looked around and he was too lazy to look behind a box of Saint Kevin and.

00:10:36 Speaker 2

He went back up and they finally left and I went back up.

00:10:41 Speaker 2

And I come out and I started back and I looked up and here come American, one American walking up.

00:10:49 Speaker 2

Could think he was American walking up.

00:10:56 Speaker 2

Passed by and I just said hi and I went on and.

00:11:01 Speaker 2

I have read in a book or paper later about this one guy saying he was the first one there.

00:11:09 Speaker 2

I was there way before.

00:11:13 Speaker 1

How long were you in the house?

00:11:16 Speaker 2

Just I don't.

00:11:18 Speaker 2

Know half hour or so. That's all did.

00:11:20 Speaker 1

That interrupt your coffee.

00:11:22 Speaker 2

I I didn't have nothing. I didn't worry about.

00:11:26 Speaker 2

Then I just worried about keeping quiet and out of sight.

00:11:31 Speaker 2

Maybe that ain't bravery, but that's what I did.

00:11:35 Speaker 1

Little blonde. I just.

00:11:36 Speaker 1

I just can't imagine.

00:11:39 Speaker 1

That feeling.

00:11:40 Speaker 2

Well, it's not that the owner.

00:11:44 Speaker 2

Well, I hate worse is thing I keep remember is.

00:11:50 Speaker 2

Up the side that Hill directing artillery fire down on.

00:11:55 Speaker 2

And I keep saying in this cell a lot of them deserve.

00:11:58 Speaker 2

But there were probably a bunch down there like me just doing his job and wasn't Nazis.

00:12:07 Speaker 2

We're just German people and.

00:12:08

It.

00:12:10 Speaker 1

Yeah, that's true.

00:12:14 Speaker 1

I was.

00:12:16 Speaker 1

Reading the 8th Infantry Division was part of Patton's Army, 80th, 80th.

00:12:20 Speaker 2

Alias.

00:12:21 Speaker 1

Sorry the.

00:12:23 Speaker 2

80th and one Army one time and then another army other times. So I don't know exactly.

00:12:29 Speaker 2

Think it was with Patton.

00:12:30 Speaker 2

Know last I remember.

00:12:34 Speaker 2

Was starting with Patton going off where I ended up.

00:12:37 Speaker 2

Don't know really.

00:12:40 Speaker 1

OK.

00:12:41 Speaker 1

So now.

00:12:44 Speaker 1

Can you just trace your path?

00:12:48 Speaker 1

Basically, you landed in Omaha Beach.

00:12:52 Speaker 1

And then you were.

00:12:56 Speaker 1



Headed for Germany?

00:13:00 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:13:01 Speaker 2

An Alsace. I forget what the AL says going through the house fast.

00:13:07 Speaker 1

That whole Alsas Lorraine area seems to switch hands every century or so, I mean.

00:13:14 Speaker 2

Never going through there and stopping in villages.

00:13:20 Speaker 2

Making sure villages are clear.

00:13:22 Speaker 2

Towns are.

00:13:24 Speaker 2

Some of them were vacated and some you find a few people still in their houses.

00:13:31 Speaker 2

You tell them they better get out, or when you're scout, you better dummies better get out.

00:13:40 Speaker 2

And.

00:13:43 Speaker 2

You go.

00:13:44 Speaker 2

You just do your job.

00:13:48 Speaker 2

I remember what it was when I went to top of this hill.

00:13:55 Speaker 2

That had a big house on it.

00:13:59 Speaker 2

What I forget, what they call them?

00:14:02 Speaker 1

France to the castles.

00:14:02 Speaker 2

Well, yeah, they and.

00:14:04 Speaker 1

You mean OK, yeah.

00:14:08 Speaker 2

Went in there.

00:14:12 Speaker 2

Man in there.

00:14:15 Speaker 2

And I looked at him and I told him better get out.

00:14:21 Speaker 2

I looked around and looked out there and there were horses out there.

00:14:27 Speaker 2

I never had always going on.

00:14:28 Speaker 1

The war was going on all around.

00:14:31 Speaker 2

Over and this guy was sitting in his house.

00:14:34 Speaker 2

There was these horses and around the barn there I went up, went down. The next one. I think it was Saint Lowe.

00:14:47 Speaker 2

And I went through St.

00:14:49 Speaker 2

And that's where the.

00:14:51 Speaker 2

Chairman, come back and I was got in the basement and head.

00:14:56 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:14:58 Speaker 2

And.

00:15:01 Speaker 2

He left and I come out and that's where she nest others.

00:15:05 Speaker 2

They're walking in. When I was walking out and.

00:15:09 Speaker 2

I thought.

00:15:11 Speaker 2

The place was bacon.

00:15:14 Speaker 1

Pretty busy place.

00:15:16 Speaker 2

Then when we come out, I told him it was clear.

00:15:21 Speaker 2

We start marching through all of the sudden. The girl stuck her head out.

00:15:28 Speaker 2

When to start cussing?

00:15:33 Speaker 2

We chased her boyfriend out of town and she was cussing us.

00:15:40 Speaker 2

I'll never forget stuff like that.

00:15:43 Speaker 2

That's ain't part of the war.

00:15:48 Speaker 2

She was still in that she she probably the only one still in town that I live.

00:15:53 Speaker 2

She stuck her head out and start cussing.

00:15:59 Speaker 2

We went home.

00:16:00 Speaker 1

Does she cuss you in French?

00:16:03 Speaker 1

You just knew she was mad.

00:16:03 Speaker 2

I think she would just scream and laughing something at us.

00:16:11 Speaker 2

We we just marched on to get on to the next town and that's.

00:16:19 Speaker 2

More or less.

00:16:20 Speaker 2

What I did was out in front.

00:16:23 Speaker 1

Where your scout? The.

00:16:24 Speaker 1

Time you were in World War 2.

00:16:26 Speaker 2

More or less OK about the 1st.

00:16:31 Speaker 2

Couple weeks I was a Miss light machine gunner.

00:16:35 Speaker 2

No.

00:16:37 Speaker 2

People were being killed or wounded and like I say.

00:16:43 Speaker 2

We've got 7 dollars or seven people back in the.

00:16:49 Speaker 2

Tune.

00:16:51 Speaker 2

Had been wounded or killed.

00:16:54 Speaker 2

And they told me to get out in front of one of the few that had experience yet.

00:16:56

Yes.

00:17:01 Speaker 1

I saw them on the map you showed me earlier where it traced.

00:17:04 Speaker 1

You went when you.

00:17:07 Speaker 1

Crossed into Germany. Where was that?

00:17:12 Speaker 2

Will like to say.

00:17:15 Speaker 2

I don't know exactly where it was, but.

00:17:19 Speaker 2

That was where I was on the side of this hill.

00:17:23 Speaker 2

Directing that home of German.

00:17:27 Speaker 2

And the next day we went down and went into Germany.

00:17:33 Speaker 2

I don't know exactly where and that's when I got wounded.

00:17:37 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:17:39 Speaker 2

That's when they.

00:17:41 Speaker 2

I ended up in the hospital out there someplace and the first nurse was from Cincinnati.

00:17:48 Speaker 1

Really.

00:17:49 Speaker 2

Yeah, I woke up.

00:17:50 Speaker 2

She was from Cincinnati.

00:17:53 Speaker 1

I'll be darned. That's amazing.

00:17:56 Speaker 1

World.

00:17:57 Speaker 2

And then I was there and they sent me to another hospital.

00:18:04 Speaker 2

On the border.

00:18:07 Speaker 2

And then they put me on an airplane and sent me to what is this hospital in Indiana? Them days I forget the name.

00:18:16 Speaker 1

About when was that date?

00:18:18 Speaker 1

What was it? 1944, Leighton and 44.

00:18:24

It.

00:18:24 Speaker 2

Was about a month before the war ended, OK.

00:18:27 Speaker 1

So you were.

00:18:27 Speaker 1

There.

00:18:29

There.

00:18:29 Speaker 2

OK.

00:18:31 Speaker 2

I was home on medical leave when the war ended.

00:18:36 Speaker 2

And I had to go back.

00:18:39 Speaker 2

In that hospital right across the border.

00:18:42 Speaker 1

In Indiana.

00:18:44 Speaker 2

I my memory's gone well.

00:18:47 Speaker 1

I think you're remembering an awful lot.

00:18:50 Speaker 1

Did you?

00:18:51 Speaker 1

So if.

00:18:52 Speaker 1

Were there about a month before the war ended?

00:18:57 Speaker 1

You recall how close to Berlin you were.

00:19:01 Speaker 1

You go clear.

00:19:03 Speaker 2

No, I didn't.

00:19:04 Speaker 2

I didn't get to.

00:19:06 Speaker 2

I didn't get near Berlin and I didn't get near the Ryan River was on the way to the Rhine River when I got wounded, OK?

00:19:16

All right.

00:19:18 Speaker 1

Did you ever see General Patton?

00:19:22 Speaker 2

Yeah, I walked past him.

00:19:26 Speaker 2

And then I think in the hospital was in a hospital, he come in a hospital.

00:19:33 Speaker 2

Visitors.

00:19:37 Speaker 2

And.

00:19:39 Speaker 2

That was the easy man.

00:19:42 Speaker 1

He was a son of a gun, wasn't he?

00:19:45 Speaker 2

I was laying there and wound it.

00:19:49 Speaker 2

And he went up to one of them and told him to get his \*\*\* out of bed.

00:19:54 Speaker 2

There ain't nothing wrong with him.



00:19:58 Speaker 2

Just looked at him.

00:20:01 Speaker 2

Let it wasn't me.

00:20:03 Speaker 2

You said that too, 'cause. I'm a hot head too.

00:20:09 Speaker 1

Yeah, he rather.

00:20:12 Speaker 1

Blunt there so.

00:20:13 Speaker 2

But I guess he was a good soldier. I'm busy.

00:20:15

Go.

00:20:18 Speaker 2

When you was with Patton, you kept.

00:20:20 Speaker 2

You you didn't retreat. Do as fast he was.

00:20:20 Speaker 1

Oh yeah.

00:20:24 Speaker 2

You didn't retreat. If you retreated, you had to be dragging a lot of dead people back with you.

00:20:31 Speaker 2

Or you didn't retreat.

00:20:33 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:20:36 Speaker 2

That was a good general I guess.

00:20:39 Speaker 1

Oh yeah, the best.

00:20:41 Speaker 1

Did you?

00:20:44 Speaker 1

So when you were wounded then this is a month before the war ended.

00:20:51 Speaker 1

He came back to the hospital in Indiana. Yeah, OK.

00:20:56 Speaker 1

And then what happened there?

00:20:57 Speaker 1

Long. Were you there?

00:21:00 Speaker 2

I don't.

00:21:01 Speaker 2

I was there when I got my discharge.

00:21:04 Speaker 2

They gave me my discharge.

00:21:08 Speaker 2

And I went home, stayed home.

00:21:10 Speaker 1

And at this, at this point, you're about 19 years old or 20.

00:21:16 Speaker 2

Well, I guess as as 18 when I was went in, I guess I was 20 years old at least I was two years in the war, I guess.

00:21:24 Speaker 1

OK.

00:21:25 Speaker 1

So what did you do after the war?

00:21:29 Speaker 2

I went to work for.

00:21:33 Speaker 2

Place called Idol Light and I took apprenticeship to be a tool and die maker.

00:21:38 Speaker 1

Auto light.

00:21:39 Speaker 2

Yeah. OK.

00:21:40 Speaker 1

I'm from a small town in France story Ohio and they had a big auto.

00:21:43 Speaker 1

Plant there.

00:21:44 Speaker 2

Well, I was apprentice at Isolaite and they were were.

00:21:49 Speaker 2

Is now.

00:21:51 Speaker 1

Out in.

00:21:53 Speaker 1

Even Dale or yeah, yeah.

00:21:55 Speaker 2

They were there.

00:21:57 Speaker 2

For 10 years.

00:22:02 Speaker 2

And I serve apprenticeship fair and.

00:22:06 Speaker 2

GE moved them out.

00:22:11 Speaker 2

And I went to work for a place called Husky.

00:22:15 Speaker 2

His tool and die maker for Husky for 20 some odd years.

00:22:21 Speaker 2

And then Husky moved out.

00:22:25 Speaker 2

I want to work for a place called KD lamp down in Cincinnati for five years.

00:22:32 Speaker 2

They went out of business and I retired.

00:22:35 Speaker 1

And when was.

00:22:35 Speaker 2

That I think it was.

00:22:41 Speaker 2

I was working for them.

00:22:43 Speaker 2

I was already retired.

00:22:47 Speaker 2

So that was 89 when I retired, I guess 60.

00:22:54 Speaker 2

Five and worked for them for about four or five years and three days a week.

00:23:01 Speaker 2

I worked at 70 so that was 94 when I retired. Is that right?

00:23:10 Speaker 1

So tell me about your family.

00:23:12 Speaker 1

Well, came home and.

00:23:15 Speaker 2

I had the best family in the world. I'm lucky.

00:23:19 Speaker 2

I married the best wife.

00:23:22 Speaker 2

I want to give her up for nothing and I got the best children.

00:23:27 Speaker 2

I go to.

00:23:28 Speaker 2

I got a nice home and I go living.

00:23:33 Speaker 2

Up to the sky about two or three times a week, and thank God for the life I got.

00:23:39 Speaker 1

Oh boy.

00:23:40 Speaker 2

We're not wealthy.

00:23:43 Speaker 2

But like I say, I got enough.

00:23:45 Speaker 2

Live on.

00:23:47 Speaker 2

And I got a family that you couldn't ask for any any better.

00:23:53 Speaker 1

Wonderful. Wonderful.

00:23:55 Speaker 1

Where'd you meet your wife?

00:23:57 Speaker 2

Had a dance and St.

00:24:00 Speaker 2

She's from Saint Bernard.

00:24:02 Speaker 2

Used to be a jitterbug.

00:24:07 Speaker 2

Men and she was educated by that. We used to go to dances.

00:24:12 Speaker 2

Just go to dances, different places.

00:24:16 Speaker 2

Be a place in Edgemont called Castle Farm.

00:24:21 Speaker 2

Used to be like a big castle that was up top of the hill and Edgemont there.

00:24:29 Speaker 2

And they had dancing big bands, the best bands, the Best Singers used to come there.

00:24:38 Speaker 2

In them days.

00:24:39 Speaker 2

And they were about 10 or 12.

00:24:43 Speaker 2

Guys that reserved a table right at the corner of the.

00:24:49 Speaker 2

One of the guys we bombed with his brother ended up a waiter.

00:24:54 Speaker 2

We had a private table there.

00:24:58 Speaker 2

And we didn't have trouble getting dates.

00:25:00 Speaker 2

Because that was the place to go on Saturday night.

00:25:03 Speaker 2

All the girls wanted to come with us.

00:25:09 Speaker 2

So anyway, I met my wife.

00:25:14 Speaker 1

And how many children do you have?

00:25:16 Speaker 2

I had seven and one died.

00:25:19 Speaker 1

Boy seven children. It's a wonderful family.

00:25:21 Speaker 2

We got 6 and I got a wonderful family.

00:25:24 Speaker 1

How many grandchildren?

00:25:26 Speaker 2

9.

00:25:27 Speaker 1

Nine. That's a wonderful family.

00:25:30 Speaker 2

Another one I'm calls travel.

00:25:33 Speaker 2

Not many people can say.

00:25:35 Speaker 1

This especially today, that's really true.

00:25:37 Speaker 2

So I'm very lucky.

00:25:41 Speaker 2

Man, like I say.

00:25:44 Speaker 2

Couple times a week got going my living room and lookout and thank God for what I got. Not a wealthy man.

00:25:54 Speaker 1

All you've got wealth.

00:25:57 Speaker 2

Them Trump's them. Big, wealthy people can have theirs.

00:26:01 Speaker 2

Wouldn't trade them well.

00:26:03 Speaker 1

It's.

00:26:04 Speaker 1

It's wonderful to feel that way. It really is. Did you?

00:26:09 Speaker 1

What were you when the war was over?

00:26:10 Speaker 1

You still in the hospital?

00:26:13 Speaker 2

Well, when the war ended, I was on sick leave and that one wouldn't, OK.

00:26:18 Speaker 2

Or cars. It's my family, living as long, sickly. When the war ended.

00:26:25 Speaker 2

And went down, they all would VFW.

00:26:30 Speaker 2

And.

00:26:31 Speaker 2

The guy that Ron Allen would be, FW, is a World War 1 veteran.

00:26:37 Speaker 2

And he took me in and I joined a VFW in Elmwood. I still belong to it.

00:26:45 Speaker 2

Good. I go there.

00:26:48 Speaker 2

Ever so often, when they have a meeting.

00:26:53 Speaker 1

Do you have any friends from the war that you met during the war?



00:26:58 Speaker 1

Have you got a reunion or?

00:27:02 Speaker 1

That happen or not?

00:27:03 Speaker 2

I used to keep in touch with my friends.

00:27:08 Speaker 2

That I'm the only one left.

00:27:11 Speaker 2

That I know of.

00:27:15 Speaker 2

Everyone, even my friends from home.

00:27:20 Speaker 2

Like my old buddies from home before the war.

00:27:23 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:27:24 Speaker 2

They're all gone.

00:27:26 Speaker 1

So how old are you?

00:27:28 Speaker 2

I'm 80.

00:27:29 Speaker 2

I'll be 84 a couple months congrat.

00:27:32 Speaker 1

Congratulations. You're good health. That's wonderful.

00:27:38 Speaker 2

I think that's because I walked.

00:27:40 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:27:41 Speaker 2

I walked a lot.

00:27:43 Speaker 1

Well, that's good.

00:27:43

Well, that's.

00:27:44 Speaker 2

I mean, I walked like I said through your uh.

00:27:45

Replay.

00:27:49 Speaker 2

They come home and I still walked in.

00:27:52 Speaker 2

Take walks up at.

00:27:54 Speaker 2

And a summit time summertime up parts near me.

00:28:02 Speaker 2

What is?

00:28:02 Speaker 2

Miami View Park or something like that. I called, got a walking trail.

00:28:06

Right.

00:28:07 Speaker 2

Then my kids.

00:28:10 Speaker 2

Bought a treadmill for me and so I could walk in the winter time.

00:28:14 Speaker 1

Do you do a treadmill?

00:28:16 Speaker 1

You put me to shame. My my.

00:28:18 Speaker 1

Wife wants me to go to the treadmill.

00:28:23 Speaker 1

I don't know if you saw the television.

00:28:25 Speaker 1

I don't remember the name of it, but it was.

00:28:29 Speaker 1

A show where a group of servicemen go back to Normandy.

00:28:37 Speaker 1

Excuse me and it showed them going into schools in the little towns there and they still they're keeping that memory of that invasion alive. And the fact that they, you know, you saved.

00:28:52 Speaker 1

Not only France.

00:28:53 Speaker 1

Saved America.

00:28:55 Speaker 1

But it was really touching.

00:28:58 Speaker 1

That you saw these children and they knew about it and they sort of really keeping that alive, I think.

00:29:03 Speaker 1

A wonderful tribute.

00:29:07 Speaker 1

What you fellas did over there?

00:29:11 Speaker 2

I think we did a good job.

00:29:14 Speaker 2

Called the lot.

00:29:17 Speaker 2

Still remembered.

00:29:19 Speaker 2

Friends I had.

00:29:22 Speaker 2

Some of them went out and disappeared and didn't come back.

00:29:26 Speaker 2

Don't know what happened to them.

00:29:30 Speaker 2

Like a friend, \*\*\*\* matter that.

00:29:34 Speaker 2

That he he was still living the last I heard. He was from.

00:29:40 Speaker 2

All the more.

00:29:42 Speaker 2

They kicked me. That's where they kicked me and told me keep moving.

00:29:46 Speaker 2

Was trying to help him.

00:29:48 Speaker 1

OK, he told me. Stern.

00:29:49 Speaker 2

So we used to write letters to each other.

00:29:53 Speaker 2

We haven't been writing letters.

00:29:56 Speaker 2

Four or five years.

00:29:59 Speaker 2

I've been in touch with him.

00:30:03 Speaker 2

Last one.

00:30:05 Speaker 2

Like to say my friends from home.

00:30:11 Speaker 1

You know one thing always.

00:30:14 Speaker 1

Interest me.

00:30:17 Speaker 1

Is the physical shape.

00:30:20 Speaker 1

That you had to be in.

00:30:24 Speaker 1

I don't know how much you carried on your back. Was it 50 or 60 lbs? Something like that?

00:30:28 Speaker 2

Bound to that.

00:30:31 Speaker 1

And to I told you to get moving, you had to run.

00:30:35 Speaker 2

Sometimes you had to run.

00:30:37 Speaker 2

And walk fast, yeah.

00:30:40 Speaker 1

Yeah. And you weren't getting much sleep.

00:30:45 Speaker 2

What all the food was K ration. And you was lucky to eat that. They gave you very little time to eat that. And that's why I carried a little stove.

00:30:57 Speaker 1

To I can't even carry the stove.

00:30:59 Speaker 2

I was only about that big and you had gasoline in it.

00:31:01 Speaker 1

You know, yeah.

00:31:03 Speaker 2

That's enough.

00:31:05 Speaker 2

Put it down and heat my coffee or.

00:31:08 Speaker 2

If it was a sea ray ash and they come in cans, I'd put the sea ration on there and heat that too.

00:31:15 Speaker 2

That's why I carried.

00:31:16 Speaker 2

I was the only one that I knew of that carried one of those.

00:31:20 Speaker 1

Where'd you get it?

00:31:21 Speaker 1

A standard issue.

00:31:21 Speaker 2

I don't exactly.

00:31:24 Speaker 2

I know I had it and I carried it and I kept carrying it until I got wounded.

00:31:30 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:31:31 Speaker 1

So with that.

00:31:34 Speaker 1

The supply.

00:31:37 Speaker 1

Trucks or so forth that carried all your rations. And so they were always behind you and lay behind. Yeah. And then.

00:31:45 Speaker 1

I guess the life of a soldier fascinates me.

00:31:48 Speaker 1

How often were you able to?

00:31:50 Speaker 1

A shower.

00:31:52 Speaker 2

Oh, you didn't worry about shower didn't?

00:31:53 Speaker 1

You would go for.

00:31:54 Speaker 2

Weeks with. Yeah. Yeah. You. You weren't even thinking about a shower.

00:32:02 Speaker 2

Them them showers where you didn't have a shower.

00:32:08 Speaker 2

You might go down the Creek or something.

00:32:09 Speaker 2

Yourself a little.

00:32:12 Speaker 2

But take a bath or shower.

00:32:16 Speaker 1

I bet when you came home that.

00:32:17 Speaker 1

A real luxury was.

00:32:18 Speaker 2

It.

00:32:19 Speaker 2

It was.

00:32:19 Speaker 2

I mean, you don't know.

00:32:24 Speaker 2

You don't even think about it.

00:32:27 Speaker 2

All you think about is.

00:32:30 Speaker 2

People.

00:32:31 Speaker 1

Alive and the change of clothing you had. You had one uniform and that was it, right?

00:32:39 Speaker 2

You just kept going.

00:32:42 Speaker 2

If you stomp God don't know.

00:32:44 Speaker 2

Know.

00:32:44 Speaker 2

A stalker or not, we're.

00:32:46 Speaker 1

All the same boat I.

00:32:47 Speaker 1

I just think that's a part of a part of the story that not everybody thinks about.

00:32:54 Speaker 1

It's that's always interested in me.

00:32:57 Speaker 1

That just to try and put myself in your place and the daily life of a soldier.

00:33:02 Speaker 2

Well, I don't know where I told you this about this one guy.



00:33:08 Speaker 2

He was one of the last guys and.

00:33:12 Speaker 2

That they put with me for one day.

00:33:16 Speaker 2

One night he kept them.

00:33:21 Speaker 2

Poll with me.

00:33:24 Speaker 2

And we're.

00:33:25 Speaker 2

He had three or four kids, he told me.

00:33:28 Speaker 2

Nice looking.

00:33:29 Speaker 2

And he was 30, some odd years old.

00:33:29 Speaker 1

No.

00:33:34 Speaker 2

We sitting there talk talking and it become daylight.

00:33:39 Speaker 2

All of a sudden, he's.

00:33:42 Speaker 2

Looked up.

00:33:44 Speaker 2

His head out of his hole.

00:33:47 Speaker 2

He got killed.

00:33:49 Speaker 2

Blood on me.

00:33:53 Speaker 2

And I.

00:33:54 Speaker 2

Have told him not to do that.

00:33:57 Speaker 2

But I then.

00:33:59 Speaker 2

And that's been all my conscience too.

00:34:03 Speaker 1

Well, you know, if you even a lot of combat 30 years old, it was probably.

00:34:10 Speaker 2

Yeah, it's. I remember stuff like that.

00:34:16 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:34:17 Speaker 2

It's another thing when I shake remember stuff.

00:34:19 Speaker 1

Like, yeah.

00:34:21 Speaker 1

But you also have to remember that like you said earlier, you were doing your job.

00:34:28 Speaker 1

All you fellows, you don't think you're heroes, but you certainly save the world, I think.

00:34:34 Speaker 1

And you're doing your job. That's right.

00:34:39 Speaker 2

And I thank God for everything I've got.

00:34:43 Speaker 1

What are your interests now?

00:34:46

Your.

00:34:47 Speaker 2

My family, my family comes first and every day.

00:34:51 Speaker 1

Do they all do the children live in the area?

00:34:54 Speaker 2

Oh, I got one son who's in the Park Service.

00:34:58 Speaker 2

Lives.

00:34:59 Speaker 2

Where does he live, mark?

00:35:00

Great Tree falls, Montana.

00:35:03 Speaker 2

These are the park surgeons, these.

00:35:06 Speaker 2

Graduated from college and went to the Park Service.

00:35:09 Speaker 2

He's been in the Park Service since.

00:35:11 Speaker 2

Mm.

00:35:13 Speaker 2

We go visit him every once. He's been all over. I mean, he's been N, SE and West, as I've seen the whole United States visiting him.

00:35:26 Speaker 1

You know, you're very fortunate to have so much family close by and.

00:35:31

I.

00:35:31 Speaker 1

Know we're spread out and I only have two children, but they're spread out. London, California ones and.

00:35:32 Speaker 2

I am lucky.

00:35:38 Speaker 1

Charlotte's it's real. It's real nice.

00:35:38 Speaker 2

I love you.

00:35:42

OK.

00:35:42 Speaker 2

Experience and I got this family and not on one caused any problems.

00:35:47 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:35:47 Speaker 2

I mean, you read the paper about these families having all these troubles.

00:35:54 Speaker 2

And I didn't have one problem. And thank God, I hope I don't have any.

00:36:00 Speaker 1

I think you're I think you're clear of that now.

00:36:02 Speaker 2

Lucky. That's wonderful.

00:36:06 Speaker 1

Where were you when?

00:36:09 Speaker 1

The Japanese surrendered.

00:36:14 Speaker 2

I guess I was home.

00:36:16 Speaker 2

OK.

00:36:17 Speaker 2

I think I was home.

00:36:20 Speaker 2

I know I was home when the war ended.

00:36:23 Speaker 1

OK.

00:36:26 Speaker 1

Well, do you?

00:36:27 Speaker 1

Any other stories you'd like to share with us?

00:36:30 Speaker 1

Anything funny happened? I.

00:36:32 Speaker 1

What can happen too funny in the war but?

00:36:36

OK.

00:36:36 Speaker 2

I don't know of anything.

00:36:39 Speaker 2

I probably remember when I leave.

00:36:42

What was the last thing you did?

00:36:43

You told me you were guarding.

00:36:46

Bullion at one point.

00:36:49 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:36:51 Speaker 1

Low volume.

00:36:53 Speaker 2

That's.

00:36:54 Speaker 2

I come back.

00:36:56 Speaker 2

This was in England.

00:37:01 Speaker 2

I think.

00:37:02 Speaker 2

And they had a big box.

00:37:06 Speaker 2

And it was full and full.

00:37:09 Speaker 2

And waiting to get on a ship and they dragged me out of the hospital bed.

00:37:16 Speaker 2

I was in a hospital.

00:37:18 Speaker 2

They dragged me out of the hospital, told me, get my uniform out.

00:37:23 Speaker 2

Took me out and put me at this box.

00:37:28 Speaker 2

And they says they have a line around this box. They hand me a carbine and.

00:37:37 Speaker 2

Says if anyone steps over that car being shoot him.

00:37:41

Did they?

00:37:41 Speaker 1

Tell you what was in the box.

00:37:43 Speaker 2

It was cold, yes.

00:37:47 Speaker 2

And I looked.

00:37:48 Speaker 1

For some reason.

00:37:51 Speaker 2

And people were around about, I told him. I said I got orders.

00:37:56 Speaker 2

You step over that line, you're dead.

00:38:01 Speaker 2

Or they move back and forth, but because I would have killed them.

00:38:07 Speaker 1

That's your job.

00:38:09 Speaker 1

Yeah, I'm a little out of sequence here, but one thing I'm also interested in hearing is.

00:38:15 Speaker 1

The buildup of the.

00:38:18 Speaker 1

Army in England.

00:38:21 Speaker 1

And it's amazing. That was all kept a secret.

00:38:25 Speaker 1

But when you were there.

00:38:27 Speaker 1

You just give us a little bit of comments on your experiences before you even cross the channel.

00:38:39 Speaker 1

Like, were you living in tents or?

00:38:43

Play.

00:38:44 Speaker 2

Well, we were living in tents mostly, but we lived in barracks. And then we lived in tents.

00:38:53 Speaker 2

We got some leave and we'd go to nearest towns.

00:39:00 Speaker 2

Look through the towns.

00:39:03 Speaker 2

I think the women had orders to stay away from us. There's something about.

00:39:12 Speaker 2

But they still did.

00:39:14 Speaker 2

We went to dances whenever they had a little dance around. They used to have dances around.

00:39:21 Speaker 2

And we could go up and dance.

00:39:25 Speaker 1

You were a jitterbugger.

00:39:27 Speaker 1

Yeah, you were ready.

00:39:27 Speaker 2

So yeah.

00:39:30 Speaker 1

Have you ever been back to France or England?

00:39:33 Speaker 2

I've been back to England, but I've never been back to France.

00:39:39 Speaker 2

Was over in England.



00:39:42 Speaker 2

My daughter in law's.

00:39:45 Speaker 2

Mark's wife is.

00:39:48 Speaker 2

Parents are from England.

00:39:53 Speaker 2

I think they're from mainland, I'm not sure.

00:39:56 Speaker 1

They went on. You visited there.

00:39:58 Speaker 2

I went to visit their parents in England, I think.

00:39:58 Speaker 2

Oh.

00:40:03 Speaker 2

Time.

00:40:06 Speaker 2

It was nice.

00:40:08 Speaker 2

I'd like to go back.

00:40:11 Speaker 2

And go up there. I think whoever lived long enough, I want to go to Ireland.

00:40:16 Speaker 2

Never was in Ireland.

00:40:20 Speaker 2

Like to go visit our.

00:40:24 Speaker 1

What's your interest there?

00:40:26 Speaker 1

And I just seemed like a nice place to.

00:40:26 Speaker 2

I don't know.

00:40:30 Speaker 2

Like.

00:40:32 Speaker 2

Going to Irish pub and England, they all having fun.

00:40:38 Speaker 2

Ireland seems like fun to me, I.

00:40:40 Speaker 1

Think.

00:40:40 Speaker 1

I think it is.

00:40:41 Speaker 2

Yeah, I don't know, but I mean.

00:40:46 Speaker 2

Irish have fun.

00:40:47 Speaker 2

I mean, you go to Irish pub. It's fun.

00:40:49

Mm.

00:40:52 Speaker 2

I always wanted to go to our.

00:40:56 Speaker 2

But had never been.

00:40:59 Speaker 2

Guess it's just me.

00:41:04 Speaker 1

But you've never had any desire to go back like to the beaches and see them today?

00:41:10 Speaker 2

Well, like I've been to England and but I never did go over to France and I drove down to the beaches when I was in England, OK?

00:41:14 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:41:21 Speaker 2

But it didn't crossover.

00:41:24 Speaker 1

Did you ever see General Eisenhower?

00:41:28 Speaker 2

I don't know where it did or not.

00:41:29 Speaker 2

I don't think so.

00:41:33 Speaker 2

Just read him and seen him and.

00:41:36 Speaker 2

Movies or something, I don't know.

00:41:42 Speaker 2

And this little infantryman that walked through York.

00:41:48 Speaker 2

Come back and still living.

00:41:50 Speaker 1

Very fortunate.

00:41:53 Speaker 2

Trade my life like a sense being.

00:41:56 Speaker 2

People could have their money, they can't buy what I got right?

00:42:02 Speaker 1

And it's wonderful that that's your outlook on life because.

00:42:07 Speaker 1

It's you're obviously very happy about all that.

00:42:10 Speaker 2

My marriage and my kids and my grandkids.

00:42:15 Speaker 1

How long have you been married?

00:42:18 Speaker 2

57 years.

00:42:20 Speaker 1

Wow.

00:42:20 Speaker 1

That doesn't happen very often today, though.

00:42:23 Speaker 1

Your generation, I think you know.

00:42:26 Speaker 2

57 years. The cutest little girl we had.

00:42:29

OK.

00:42:29 Speaker 2

You ever seen?

00:42:32 Speaker 1

Redhead oh boy.

00:42:35 Speaker 1

Was there anything else you'd like to?

00:42:41 Speaker 1

Tell us.

00:42:44 Speaker 2

Just thank God for what I got.

00:42:46 Speaker 1

Mm.

00:42:49 Speaker 2

I'd like to see these wars over.

00:42:52 Speaker 1

It would.

00:42:53 Speaker 1

A blessing, wouldn't it?

00:42:54 Speaker 2

I'd like to pick up a.

00:42:56 Speaker 2

When I go to hospital, they just tell me to forget everything.

00:43:03 Speaker 2

But how can I forget everything? I come back, pick a newspaper up.

00:43:08 Speaker 2

It about.

00:43:11 Speaker 2

War. I turned television off.

00:43:13 Speaker 2

It about war.

00:43:15 Speaker 2

How can someone like this me forget about anything when it's all over?

00:43:23 Speaker 2

I like to read the comics.

00:43:26 Speaker 2

Read Dagwood and.

00:43:29 Speaker 2

Poem.

00:43:30 Speaker 2

That's the first thing I.

00:43:31 Speaker 2

Try to laugh and then I start reading the paper and it takes laughing out of it, yeah.

00:43:39 Speaker 1

We never seem to learn, do we?

00:43:42 Speaker 2

And they never people never seem to think like that, says.

00:43:48 Speaker 2

These people start wars.

00:43:51 Speaker 2

Why don't they?

00:43:52 Speaker 2

By that word, em people stay and go over and drop an A bomb on that keep our people living.

00:44:01 Speaker 2

That's what I don't understand if people like.

00:44:03 Speaker 2

And then maybe people learn to not start wars if the.

00:44:09 Speaker 2

Focus in on now.

00:44:14 Speaker 2

That's.

00:44:17 Speaker 1

Have you been to the World War 2 memorial in Washington, DC?

00:44:21 Speaker 2

I.

00:44:22 Speaker 2

Don't think.

00:44:23 Speaker 1

OK.

00:44:25 Speaker 1

It's. I don't know if you could ever get there, but.

00:44:29 Speaker 1

It's really a wonderful, wonderful thing and I think.

00:44:36 Speaker 1

Is just refocus the people. The thinking of what you and your.

00:44:44 Speaker 1

Men and women did for the world, not just, you know, a liberated Europe. You save United States in our way of life and.

00:44:55 Speaker 1

It's just AI. Think a very meaningful thing to see.

00:45:02 Speaker 2

We was just doing her duty.

00:45:07 Speaker 1

Well, you all seem to say that and I think that that's.

00:45:10 Speaker 1

You looked at it and you.

00:45:14 Speaker 1

Your obeying orders.

00:45:15 Speaker 1

You were.

00:45:16 Speaker 1

You don't think you're heroes, but you are.

00:45:20 Speaker 2

Just did what I was told to do.

00:45:22 Speaker 1

Right.

00:45:24 Speaker 2

OK. And I thank God I come through it.

00:45:28 Speaker 2

I guess they go and thank God.

00:45:31 Speaker 2

Couple times a week for be alive and to have the family I got.

00:45:38 Speaker 1

No, we're very lucky to come through it. Just very lucky.

00:45:41 Speaker 1

So I don't do Mark.

00:45:43 Speaker 1

You have anything left?

00:45:45

Did you talk how you?

00:45:46

Were wounded.

00:45:48 Speaker 1

No, we didn't talk about that.

00:45:50 Speaker 1

How you were wounded in your arm?

00:45:53

All wounded in the arm.

00:45:56 Speaker 2

I.

00:45:58 Speaker 2

As an attack.

00:46:01 Speaker 2

And that's when I stopped and looked at my buddy to help him.

00:46:07 Speaker 2

I got kicked to keep going and I.

00:46:09 Speaker 2

Was the one all of a sudden squished?



00:46:13 Speaker 2

Something hit me in the arm.

00:46:16 Speaker 2

And it was bleeding.

00:46:19 Speaker 2

So I went the first aid guy.

00:46:24 Speaker 2

He wrapped it up, put something on it, wrapped it up, says keep going like a tourniquet was up here above your elbow.

00:46:34 Speaker 2

I look, there ain't even a star there now.

00:46:36 Speaker 1

So it didn't break any bones or anything.

00:46:38 Speaker 1

I was like.

00:46:40 Speaker 2

You just wrapped it up and.

00:46:42 Speaker 2

Keep moving, keep moving.

00:46:44 Speaker 2

Nowadays if.

00:46:45 Speaker 2

Get a little wound.

00:46:46 Speaker 2

You go to hospital for months.

00:46:49 Speaker 2

It's all different.

00:46:51 Speaker 2

Maybe you got a little moon. You just kept moving.

00:46:54 Speaker 1

Uh.

00:46:55

We're put in the hospital.

00:46:57 Speaker 2

When I got.

00:46:59 Speaker 2

Shell in the back our jewelry shell.

00:47:05 Speaker 1

So you got hit in.

00:47:06 Speaker 2

The back with artillery shell.

00:47:09 Speaker 2

Was wounded twice.

00:47:10 Speaker 1

OK, I thought that this was.

00:47:12 Speaker 1

Puts in the hospital.

00:47:13 Speaker 2

Oh, art toilet shell.

00:47:15 Speaker 2

Where I was.

00:47:19 Speaker 2

On the way to Derry.

00:47:22 Speaker 2

Is on the way to the Rhine River and we were in attack.

00:47:26 Speaker 2

Were attacking.

00:47:28 Speaker 2

Sudden artillery.

00:47:30 Speaker 2

You all hit.

00:47:33 Speaker 2

Behind me.

00:47:35 Speaker 2

Ended up in that hospital tent with the girl from Cincinnati.

00:47:40 Speaker 1

OK, so like a piece of shrapnel or something, is that what hit you? OK.

00:47:45 Speaker 2

Quite a few pieces.

00:47:48 Speaker 2

Was all through my bag.

00:47:51 Speaker 1

And today is your back and you look fine. And I'm walking. You're welcome.

00:47:56 Speaker 2

I got the shakes.

00:47:58 Speaker 1

On the treadmill, you're walking on the treadmill.

00:48:03 Speaker 2

Then I have my martini at 4:00.

00:48:07 Speaker 2

That calms me down a little. That Martin.

00:48:10 Speaker 2

You.

00:48:12 Speaker 2

I don't know why.

00:48:13 Speaker 2

It.

00:48:14 Speaker 2

Makes me calm.

00:48:16 Speaker 2

I made it might be in my mind or it might be in a drink.

00:48:19 Speaker 1

Probably.

00:48:20

Both.

00:48:22 Speaker 2

Thank God for my life.

00:48:25 Speaker 1

Yeah, I just wanted.

00:48:29 Speaker 1

Umm.

00:48:31 Speaker 1

I think we've.

00:48:34 Speaker 1

Covered everything. It was very interesting experience you had.

00:48:38 Speaker 1

Just.

00:48:39 Speaker 1

I can't imagine.

00:48:41 Speaker 1

I've never done it myself.

00:48:44 Speaker 1

But thank you for.

00:48:46 Speaker 1

For let us live the way we live. Because of your efforts.

00:48:52 Speaker 2

I thank God for what I got. I'm well paid, yes.

00:48:58 Speaker 2

Well paid with my wife and kids.

00:49:05

Why don't you end the thing you have?

00:49:06

You.

00:49:07

Have a daughter that's in the army.

00:49:09 Speaker 2

I have what?

00:49:10

Daughter is in the army right now.

00:49:13

Oh.

00:49:14 Speaker 2

Yeah, I got a daughter in the army now and she's over in Iraq.

00:49:19 Speaker 1

Is that right?

00:49:20 Speaker 2

Yes, she's a nurse over in Iraq.

00:49:24 Speaker 2

Lieutenant Colonel.

00:49:27 Speaker 2

Nursing core over Iraq.

00:49:30 Speaker 1

So when what does she say about that whole situation?

00:49:36 Speaker 2

Well, she talks to her mother about every day, I think.

00:49:42 Speaker 2

Yeah. Or sends a letter.

00:49:44 Speaker 2

They send letters to each other on computers or something, I don't know.

00:49:50 Speaker 2

My wife's downstairs and.

00:49:53 Speaker 2

Computer.

00:49:55 Speaker 1

They can e-mail each other.

00:49:56 Speaker 1

Guess can't I?

00:49:57 Speaker 2

I don't know what it is.

00:50:00 Speaker 2

I don't interrupt.

00:50:03 Speaker 1

And how long has she been over there?

00:50:05 Speaker 2

Oh, she'd been over there more.

00:50:07

She's been over there since September, since about Labor Day.

00:50:12 Speaker 1

And then when she's supposed to come home, you know how.

00:50:14 Speaker 1

Would she supposed to stay?

00:50:18 Speaker 2

Between a year and 14 months, I think.

00:50:22 Speaker 2

And she'd come home.

00:50:28 Speaker 1

Well.

00:50:31 Speaker 1

Another thing that's interesting to me is that some of the fellows in World War 2.

00:50:36 Speaker 1

You know they're over there for four years within the service of five years.

00:50:40 Speaker 1

Don't see their families at all and.

00:50:41 Speaker 2

No.

00:50:43 Speaker 1

That's got to be another hardship.

00:50:46 Speaker 2

That is.

00:50:48 Speaker 1

They didn't have a computer to e-mail back and forth and.

00:50:51 Speaker 2

All you got was letters and then were far between because they couldn't deliver them. When you're on the frontline, you don't get nothing, right?

00:50:54 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:51:00 Speaker 1

You were out in.

00:51:01 Speaker 1

Of the front lines. So you were.

00:51:02 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:51:05 Speaker 1

Did any of your other children serve in the service?

00:51:10 Speaker 2

Just her.

00:51:10 Speaker 1

OK.

00:51:13 Speaker 2

I kept.

00:51:15 Speaker 1

I'm proud of her, I'm sure, absolutely.

00:51:17 Speaker 2

Oh yeah.

00:51:20 Speaker 2

Yeah.

00:51:20 Speaker 1

It's good you can hear from her often though.

00:51:22 Speaker 1

That's.

00:51:24 Speaker 2

I don't know why they do it.

00:51:27 Speaker 2

But she's my wife's writing her letters every day.

00:51:32

Hmm.

00:51:32 Speaker 2

She's getting letters every day.

00:51:35 Speaker 2

Know how it's going.

00:51:37 Speaker 2

What's going on there?



00:51:39 Speaker 1

Yeah.

00:51:42 Speaker 2

This thank God that she's living.

00:51:45 Speaker 1

Hope she comes home safely and.

00:51:48 Speaker 2

I'll have a martini then.

00:51:50 Speaker 1

Yes, Sir. OK.

00:51:53 Speaker 1

Good. Well, thank you very.

00:51:56 Speaker 1

It's been really aged and you know.

00:52:00 Speaker 2

Thank God for them guys fighting.

00:52:03 Speaker 2

Just take care of yourselves, bellows.

00:52:08 Speaker 1

And all my life and we see them in airports and things.

00:52:11 Speaker 1

Thank.

00:52:11 Speaker 1

We go out and talk to them.

00:52:14 Speaker 1

And I think.

00:52:17 Speaker 1

The world, the United.

00:52:19 Speaker 1

At least I think is very much focused on this thing, very aware the sacrifices, the families.

00:52:23

Yeah.

00:52:25 Speaker 1

Going through.

00:52:26 Speaker 2

Yeah, but I don't understand.

00:52:30 Speaker 2

We belong to what?

00:52:33 Speaker 2

What is it?

00:52:35 Speaker 1

UN, United Nations and.

00:52:39 Speaker 2

Were they? What have we blown to you in?

00:52:44 Speaker 2

And they're supposed to be.

00:52:47 Speaker 2

We're the only other nation I think besides England fighting.

00:52:52 Speaker 2

Commonwealth, the UN taking care of the war.

00:52:57 Speaker 1

Well, I think you should go talk about that because I think a lot of people feel the same way.

00:53:04 Speaker 2

I mean, if we pay money into the UN and.

00:53:08 Speaker 2

We give money to other countries.

00:53:15 Speaker 2

If you had.

00:53:16 Speaker 1

A lot of politics.

00:53:19 Speaker 1

Politics.

00:53:21 Speaker 2

I guess that's the only thing I can think of.

00:53:25 Speaker 2

We're saving money for the big old people over in New York.

00:53:32 Speaker 2

Think a president has got money over there.

00:53:35 Speaker 1

Well, I don't know much about that, but.

00:53:37

I.

00:53:40 Speaker 1

But I think we're, we're all done. Thank you.

00:53:45 Speaker 1

Been very interesting, OK.

00:53:48 Speaker 2

God bless you. God bless you guys.

00:53:49 Speaker 1

Open my Bluetooth.