

**“It was an honor to serve.”***Shirley Beck*

It's my experience, and it's patriotism. I felt like it was an honor to serve. It was something that doesn't happen all the time, and I didn't just do it to get a little bit of money. One of the things in my mind was retirement, of course; you know you think about that. But some people go into the reserves because they need some extra money, and I understand that, as long as they do their job and serve appropriately. But I think some people think the reserves are not quite as good as the regular Army, and probably we weren't. But people don't realize that it's not the officers that make the Army work, it's the enlisted people. Oh, the command sergeant major was—if you wanted something or needed help with something, that was the man to go to. I had a couple of enlisted people that wrote me some lovely letters about support and looking out for them, and just that kind of thing that you never expected to get, because it was your job to do that stuff.



**Army veteran Shirley Beck.**  
*Courtesy of Shirley Beck.*

**“I didn't know there was something wrong.”***Chad Lackovic*

My grandpa passed when I was in fourth or fifth grade, but I knew him. He was in World War II, and he was there on D-Day plus two or three, something like that, relatively near the beginning. My dad used to tell me that my grandpa was jacked up. And my whole life, my dad was crazy. My dad is a Vietnam veteran. I don't want to make him out to be a dirt-bag, but he would like rage. We could never wake him up from a nap. He didn't sleep much, and he had nightmares. My brother and I would hear