# Inspirational Veteran

#### By: Laura Christianson

### Bernard Andrew Brow

Bernard Brow is my Great Grandpa, he was born on October 1, 1933 in Michigan. Today he is 87 years young. He was 17 years old when he enlisted to the US army and became a paratrooper in the Korean war from 1950 - 1954.

His highest ranking in the army was <u>**Corporal</u>** Bernard Brow.</u>



## "The Forgotten War"

- The Korean War is coined the "forgotten war" because there was barely any media coverage and it was overshadowed by the impact of World War II.
- The Korean War was a conflict between North Korea and South Korea that started as a result of the peninsula being almost bisected between the United States of America and the Soviet Union.
- Each side had their own way of ruling, in the north they supported communists, and in the south they were the complete opposite, causing each leader to hate the other and want to invade each other's countries to "unify Korea once again".
- During the war 2.5 million people lost their lives; military personnel, civilians, and more.
- The war became international in June 1950 when North Korea supplied and advised by the Soviet Union decided to invade South Korea.
- This war is often thought by historians to be the first event of the "Cold War". The Korean War ended in an armistice agreement to stop the bloodshed, but the conflict was never truly resolved. South Korea's president today still believes that Korea should not have been split apart.



#### Paratrooper

• Paratroopers had a very important role in the Korean war. U.S. paratroopers descended from their planes in a mass parachute drop behind enemy lines in the Sunchon area of North Korea on October 25, 1950.

• The operation was designed to block the escape route of the retreating Chinese forces and to attempt to rescue American prisoners.







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#### Three Words that Stick Out to My Great Grandfather from His Service

- Respect "I had to learn to put my myself and my thoughts aside and respect the men who ranked above me and listen to them, even if I didn't agree sometimes."
- Trust "I needed to trust my comrades so that if the time ever came where we fought I wouldn't have to look over my shoulder every second, I could know someone was fighting alongside me."
- Loyalty "I had a loyalty to my country, my friends, my wife, and my kids."

#### Reflection

This project has made me appreciate the service of my Great Grandpa so much more than I already did. I learned a lot about what it would take to be a paratrooper in the army and jumping out of a plane into an active war zone. still can't imagine the fear my Great Grandpa was feeling, but I appreciate he overcame those fears and fought for our country. He said looking back on those times he appreciates his children, wife, and family so much more because of the death and loss he witnessed.