

## Marvin Kruse - SUMMARY

Birth Date - March 7, 1922

Birthplace - Riverview<sup>1</sup>

Father - Rudolph “**Pops**” Kruse (1893-1977)

Mother - Ottillie “**Tillie**” Rateike (1890-1967)

Spouse - Margaret Adair (1921-2002)

Children - Thomas, Linda, Richard, Nancy

Brothers - Wilbur (1917-1996) and Rudolph (1929-2012)

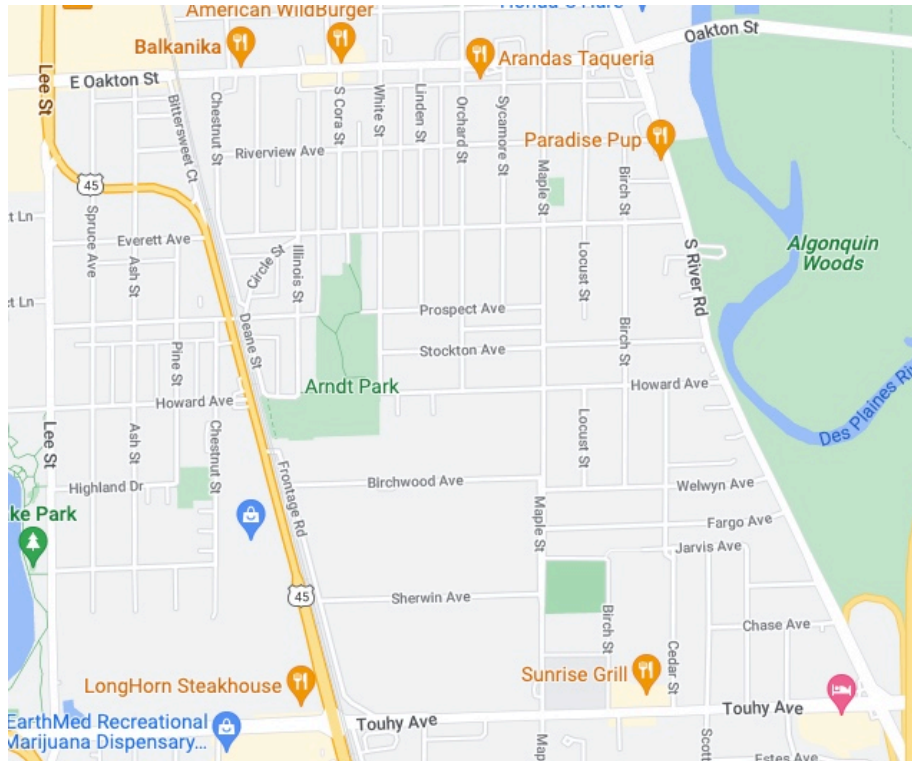
Sister - Lois (1927-2020)

Marriage - August 31, 1946

Died - July 26, 2018 at Huntley, Illinois

Buried - July 31, 2018 at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois

Riverview bounded by Lee, Oakton, River, Touhy



<sup>1</sup> Village of Riverview. In 1925 the remaining residents asked Des Plaines to annex it. With the annexation, Des Plaines transitioned from a village to a city.

Pops and Tillie were married June 17, 1916 in Des Plaines, Illinois.





These photographs were provided by Chuck Rateike of Arlington Heights.



Pictured are Annie Rateike (with Rudy Dams), Agnes Kruse (with Albert Winkelman), Minnie Rateike (with William Koeppen), Lydia Kruse, Max Rateike, Ida Rateike Kritsch, Henry Kruse, Tillie and Pops.



Like most of our family, Pops and Tillie celebrated their 50th Anniversary. Their event was at Melrose Park, Illinois in June, 1966.





As you can see from his baptism, confirmation record and marriage papers, he and Tillie were Lutheran. Rudolph spoke both High German (southern highlands of Germany) and Low German (northern Germany). I do not know Tillie's fluency in German.



When Pops registered for the draft in World War I on June 5, 1917, he was a plumber working for B.F. Kinder in Des Plaines. Tillie was pregnant with first born child Wilbur, born August 31, 1917.

Daughter Alma was born December 16, 1918 and died January 14, 1919. We wonder if this was the worldwide influenza at that time.

**The 1920 Federal Census** (taken on January 12, 1920) states his occupation as Sales Man working for Delo (?) Light Co. Rudolph, Tillie, and Wilbur lived on Walnut St. near Center St. in Des Plaines. Living with them were Tillie's sister Anna, age 24, who was a Press operator at Electric Factory and a boarder, August Pruse, age 66, widower.

**The 1930 Federal Census** (April 1, 1930) states his occupation as Proprietor of Delicatessen. Since he lived on Railroad Ave. near Emerson St. we assume this to be Kruse's Tavern owned by his parents, William and Sophia. They purchased Behren's Saloon in 1923 during Prohibition and ran a sandwich shop with homemade ice cream and candies. With the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, their son Henry Kruse renovated it and turned it into a



tavern.<sup>2</sup> Marvin says he lived there with his siblings. Lois was born September 12, 1927, and Rudy, Jr. was born August 24, 1929.

**The 1940 Federal Census** is missing for the entire family.

On September 16, 1940, the United States instituted the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 requiring all men between the age of 21 and 45 to register for the draft. **World War II** Draft Cards state Wilbur registered on October 16, 1940. Marvin registered on July 1, 1941. Rudy was too young.

**The 1950 Federal Census** (April 1, 1950) states his occupation as I.B.M. Operator with the kind of business/industry as Farm Implement Manufacturing Co. He is listed as married with wife Margaret and son Thomas and daughter Linda.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mtphist.org/kruses-tavern/>

## **Marvin Charles Henry Kruse<sup>3</sup>**

He was born March 7, 1922 in Des Plaines, Illinois. Birth certificate states Riverview Village which was annexed in 1925 to Des Plaines, which became a city then. Riverview was at the southern end of Des Plaines Village.<sup>4</sup>

Further details in Certificate of Birth:

“Father age 28, birthplace Des Plaines, occupation Electric Supplier. Mother age 30, birthplace Wheeling, occupation House work. Number of children born alive and now living 2, born alive and now dead 1. Child born alive 2<sup>30</sup> am.”

Signature John H Krueger, M.D. Filed 4-8-1922  
Registrar E. A. Behrens, Des Plaines.

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<sup>3</sup> More photographs of Marvin here  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/sets/72157685686893681/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://desplainsmemory.org/Documents/Detail/march-of-progress-1885-1956/1196?item=1201>



Here is his birth registration.

File No. 514

**STATE OF ILLINOIS**

LEN SMALL GOVERNOR

**CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF BIRTH**

This is to Certify, That Marvin Charles Henry Kruse  
was born on March 7, 1922, in Reveries Village  
County of Cook State of Illinois.

The original certificate of birth of the child whose name is shown herein has been duly entered on, and is now a part of the records of the State Department of Public Health at Springfield, Illinois.

A certified copy of the original certificate of birth will be issued on application and payment of fifty cents as required by Statute.

The certified copy of this birth may be used to prove citizenship; to establish rights of inheritance or property; to establish proof of age for entering or leaving school, for entering military service, for securing working permit, for securing marriage license, for holding public office; to secure passports; to adjust insurance; and to secure other financial benefits.

 Issued June 11 1922

Isaac D. Rawlings M.D.  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Marvin had 2 middle names, common in German culture. He told me his middle names were from his two uncles, but he only used "Charles" in his correspondence.



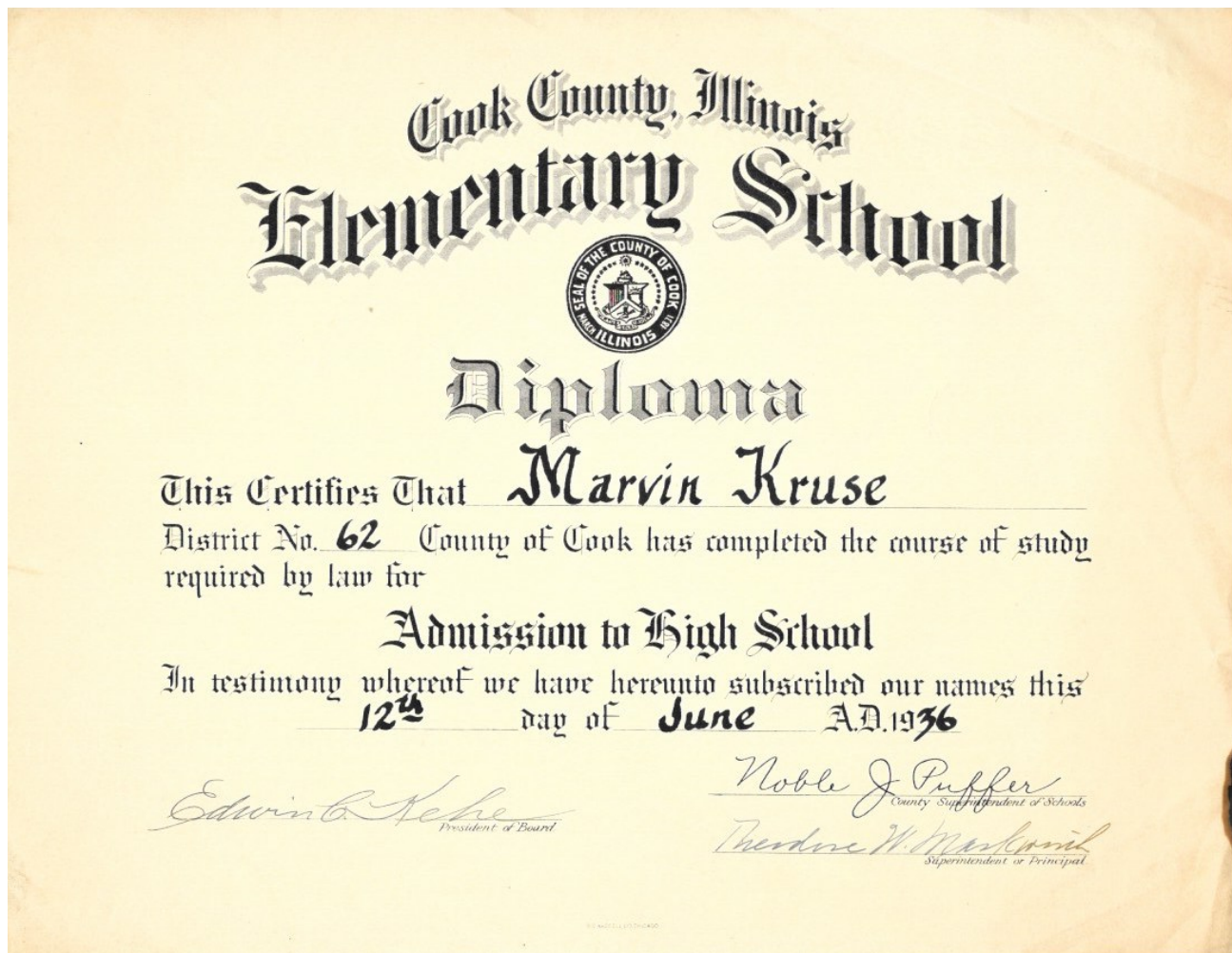
The Certificate of Baptism states he was Child of Mr. Rudolf Kruse and his wife Mathilde, nee Rateike on April 2, 1922. Sponsors were Charles Kritsch (husband of Ida Rateike, sister of Tillie Rateike), Henry Kruse, Bertha Mollenhauer (sister of Tillie Rateike).





The Immanuel Lutheran church bulletin dated Easter Sunday, April 12, 1936 lists Marvin Kruse in the Class of Confirmands of 1936<sup>5</sup>.

He completed elementary school at Immanuel Ev. Luth. School (District No. 62), Des Plaines on June 12, 1936.



<sup>5</sup> Copy of the entire Program may be found here.  
<https://adair.family/blog/kruse-seegers/286-marvin-kruse-confirmand-in-1936.html>

His diploma from Maine Township High School certifies completion on June 6, 1940.





On July 1, 1941 he registered for the U.S. Draft. He was employed by First National Bank of Chicago. His address was listed as 1637 Whitcomb Av. Des Plaines which was **redlined** out. Also **redlined** out is another address: 604 Glendale Rd. Glenview, Ill., which is his address on Honorable Discharge dated October 2, 1945. His parents lived at 1077 Des Plaines Ave, Des Plaines. The registration includes height 5'8", weight 150, Blue eyes, Brown hair, and Light complexion. The stamp of local board lists Chicago Local Board No. 53 at 5452 W. North Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after January 1, 1922 and on or before June 30, 1924)**

SERIAL NUMBER N. 49 1. NAME (Print) MARVIN CHARLES KRUSE ORDER NUMBER 13565

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 1637 WHITCOMB AV. DES PLAINES, ILL. (Number and street) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)

3. MAILING ADDRESS SAME (Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same insert word same)

4. TELEPHONE 317-1 5. AGE IN YEARS 20 6. PLACE OF BIRTH Des Plaines, Ill. (Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town, township, village, or city) (County) (State)

7. DATE OF BIRTH Mar. 7 1922 (Mo.) (Day) (Yr.)

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Mrs. Mrs. Rudolph Kruse, 1077 Des Plaines Ave, Des Plaines

9. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS HERMAN STEINBRECKER

10. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Ill. (Number and street or R. F. D. number) (Town) (County) (State)

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. Form 1 (Revised 6-1-42) (over) c16-21630-3 Marvin Charles Kruse (Registrant's signature)

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Approx.)	WEIGHT (Approx.)	COMPLEXION
White	5'8"	150	Sallow
	EYES	HAIR	Light
Negro	Blue	Blonde	Ruddy
	Gray	Red	Dark
Oriental	Hazel	Brown	Freckled
	Brown	Black	Light brown
Indian	Black	Gray	Dark brown
		Bald	Black
Filipino			

Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification: None

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows: None

Orley C. Juste (Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board 53 (Number) Chicago (City or county) Illinois (State)

Date of registration July 1-1941

CHICAGO LOCAL BOARD No. 53  
5452 W. NORTH AVE.  
CHICAGO, ILL.  
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the registrant shall be placed in the above space)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-21630

Marvin Kruse was asked question “What is the best household hint you could offer to housewives?” by The Inquiring Camera Girl (Freida Zylstra) at The Old Colony Building, Van Buren and Dearborn Streets. His answer was published in the Chicago Tribune, February 16, 1942. **When I water the potted plant I take a long strip of ribbon - about 2 inches wide - and stick one end of it in a two quart jar of water and wrap the other end around the base of the plant. Then nature takes its course.**

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**THE QUESTION.**  
What is the best household hint  
you could offer to housewives?

**WHERE ASKED.**  
The Old Colony building, Van  
Buren and Dearborn streets.

**THE ANSWERS.**  
Marvin Kruse, bank messenger, 1077  
Des Plaines avenue, Des Plaines—  
When I water the  
potted plant I take  
a long strip of ribbon—  
about 2 inches wide—  
and stick one end of it  
in a two quart jar of  
water and wrap the  
other end around the  
base of the plant. Then  
nature takes its course.



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He enlisted in the Army of the United States on September 28, 1942 (Height 64, Weight 138). Education: "1 year of college".

His civil occupation states "Messengers, errand boys, and office boys and girls". His Honorable Discharge states Civilian Occupation as "Bank Messenger" with Military Occupational Specialty as "Clerk Typist" and Military Qualification "Medical Badge".

Marvin Kruse kept a daily diary September 28, 1942 - September 13, 1943.<sup>6</sup> Initially he went to Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois then assigned to Camp Livingston, Louisiana with 110th Infantry, 28th Division on October 3, 1942. He was transferred to 103rd Medical Battalion on November 19, 1942. He was transferred to Gordon Johnson Camp at Carrabelle, Florida on January 23, 1943. He was transferred to Camp Pickett, Virginia on June 2, 1943. His diary has this personal description: Height 5'5", Weight 138, Hair Brown, Eyes Blue-Green, Hat size 8 1/4, Collar size 14 1/2.

Diary entries on September 11-12, 1943: Hitch hiked to Washington, Train to New York City. Night spots. Slept Waldorf Astoria lobby. Stage show. Statue of Liberty, Radio City, Empire State, etc. Bus back to camp.

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<sup>6</sup> You may read the entire diary here. <https://adair.family/blog/kruse-seegers/200-marvin-kruse-diary-sep-28-1942-sep-13-1943.html>



Marvin had photographs from his World War II buddies.<sup>7</sup> He was in Swindon, England, June 1944. While here he had correspondence with a few local girls, Millie and Babs.<sup>8</sup> Millie addressed him as “Chuck”; Babs addressed him as “Marvin”. The last letter was postmarked June 5, 1944. He landed on Normandy Omaha Beach, France, June 10, 1944.

The photographs show Versaille, Campigne or Compeigne, Laroche, Paris, Leon, Charleville-Meziers, Floize, Verdah, La Franchville, St. Die, Luneville, Alsace, Ribeauville, Colmar, Toul, Elbeuf, St. Germaine, Reims, Le Havre (in **France**), Pin, Breidfeld, Wiltz, Ettelbruck, Beford, Mersch (in Luxembourg), Arlon, Liege, Brussels (**Belgium**), Roentgen, Hurtgen Forest, Zweifall, Vossenack, Aachen, Limberg, Kaiserslautern, Ruppach, Bad Godesberg, Oggersheim, Ruppach, Heidelberg (**Germany**), and (**Holland**).

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.flickr.com/photos/tom-maverick/albums/72157683441085496>

<sup>8</sup> I scanned all letters that you may read here. <https://adair.family/blog/kruse-seegers/280-letters-to-marvin-kruse-pre-d-day.html>

During his Army service he received several awards. The one he mostly spoke of was the Bronze Star Medal.



Recipients of this are entitled to wear a “V” device of heroism in combat. He received the "V" for his heroic efforts on November 9-10, 1944 at Vossaneck during the Hurtgen Forest battles. He received the Oak leaf cluster for meritorious achievement in ground combat against the enemy during WWII.

View other medals here<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://flic.kr/s/aHskKhVBbo>



He also received several awards, medals and recognition from European countries. Here is the Croix De Guerre 1939-1945.



Luxembourg was another country grateful for their liberation.

Marvin returned to Boston on the ship “James T. Parker” in July, 1945 and was discharged from the Army October 2, 1945. Four days later he was usher at wedding of Mae Rohs and Elroy Polhman. He is a son of John Pohlmann who was station master for the Chicago and Northwestern Railway station in Mount Prospect.

Marvin spoke about his experiences a lot. He was grateful to have survived and was interviewed several times.



He always went to the Army Reunions with Margaret and even met Bob Dole.



FRANKLIN PARK JOURNAL JUN 1, 1994  
PIONEER PRESS SPECIAL REPORT



Marvin Kruse admires a display of U.S. medals he earned as an infantryman. He also earned numerous foreign medals. He saw nine months of combat in Normandy.

Anthony Caciopo/Pioneer Press

## Medic: 'I guess I was not destined to die'

By TODD SHIELDS  
STAFF WRITER

Six days after D-Day, Marvin Kruse was one of 14,253 soldiers who landed with the 28th U.S. Infantry Division on Omaha Beach in Normandy, but that's where he stayed for days because of an injury.

Laden with a 35-pound backpack, a 9-pound M-1 rifle and dressed in heavy, gas-proof army fatigues, Kruse jumped from his troop ship to a landing craft, which was part of a fourth Allied attack wave that day.

"The water was very choppy, so I waited for the landing craft to bob up again. It was about 6 feet below, but I hit the deck at an angle and really sprained my ankle," says Kruse, a Franklin Park resident.

"Two buddies helped me to shore, where I dug a foxhole close to the cliffs. I was ordered to stay put, so I lay there and watched the war go on," he says.

Because he was a combat medic, Kruse's three days of viewing the tumultuous military activity from a foxhole centered mostly on the seriously wounded under evacuation from land to ships.

"We were always getting shelled on the beach, and the movement of ammunition, planes, supplies, cargo and troops was 24 hours a day. Each night, German planes, known as Bed Check Charlie, would sweep the beach, shooting pictures of our troops and equipment. I finally got better and joined the 28th Division, which was about

two miles in," he says.

Once past the invasion beaches, Kruse's infantry advanced on the Germans in hedge-row warfare, meaning troops, if successful, gained small plots of countryside bordered by fences of stone and thick brush.

"The fighting was very heavy. If you kept busy doing things, you kept your mind off all the dead and wounded. As a medic, sometimes I crawled for hours dragging the hurt men to safety," he says.

"I guess I was not destined to die. In nine months of combat, after seeing hundreds die and thousands wounded, I was not hurt. We always said a bullet had your name on it, and there was nothing you could do if your time was up," Kruse says.

When the 28th Infantry was part of the contingent that forced the German army from Paris in August 1944, Kruse recalls a city delirious with relief.

"We marched by the Arc de Triomphe that day, and the city was ours. Women kissing us, flowers, wine and champagne. I'll never forget it," says Kruse, adding that Charles De Gaulle, then a French general, and American General Omar Bradley reviewed the troops.

Kruse, who was discharged a sergeant and awarded two Bronze Stars among 10 U.S. Army decorations, fought in the campaigns of Northern France, Central Europe, the Ardennes, Battle of the Bulge, the Rhineland and the Hurtgen Forest, which was part of the Siegfried Line.



6 Wednesday, August 10, 1994

NEWS

PIONEER PRESS

# Area veteran being honored by French

By TODD SHIELDS  
STAFF WRITER

Holding a black and white photograph of a bombed out French village, the U.S. Army veteran said most towns in World War II were similarly bare of citizens and rubble-strewn.

The church steeples and brick chimneys stand alone like stubbled stalks in a parched field.

On a lighter note, he also shows a button tag he will wear upon returning to the same town this week, Sourdeval, whose 2,000 people are honoring American soldiers who liberated their village 50 years ago from German Nazis.

The tag says "Amis pour Toujours" — "Friends forever" with colorful French and American flags draped together.

Marvin Kruse, of unincorporated Leyden Township, was an U.S. Army combat medic with the 28th Infantry Division, and he is one of five American soldiers whom Sourdeval officials have invited back for eight days of parades, dances and memorials.

"It's a great honor that they would ask us back. The war really hit these French

civilians hard back then. It's very kind of them to remember us," Kruse said.

The 28th Infantry was part of the notorious 109th Infantry Regiment, in which both soldier contingents eventually chased the Nazi Army back into Germany and within months claimed victory in May 1945.

Kruse, decorated with 10 medals, among them two Bronze Stars and a Silver Battle Star, fought in Northern France, Central Europe, the Ardennes, Battle of the Bulge, Rhineland and the Hurtgen Forest where 2,400 men were killed in his division.

This week, he joins his army comrades in Paris, France and will travel by train to Sourdeval, Northern France, arriving on Thursday — exactly two days before the 50th anniversary of Sourdeval's freedom date on Aug. 13, 1944.

By his suggestion, Kruse will present an American flag to Sourdeval's mayor, a former member of the French Underground in World War II.

"If the townspeople are nice enough to remember us, we can reciprocate our own feelings for them," he said.

"I want see my army bud-

dies, but I'm especially looking forward to meeting the town civilians who were there during the fighting. They suffered a lot because it was their land, their homes that were destroyed."

Kruse purchased the huge 8-by-4-foot flag from the office of U.S. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski. On July 13 it flew one day over the U.S. Capital in Washington, D.C.

Rostenkowski wrote a personal letter to Kruse, saying "It is a great and honorable thing to be responsible for the freedom of a group of people. The people of Sourdeval, I am sure, appreciate your actions in liberating their city, but I see your actions that day as one part of a monstrous effort by thousands of American soldiers who risked their lives," he wrote.

Because German and Allied armies were engaged in hedgerow warfare, in which countless fields, crossroads and small towns were viciously fought for, Kruse recalls little of the three days leading to Sourdeval's liberation.

"Other than marching in Paris down the Arc de Triomphe, I don't remember the towns that well. They

(Continued on page 16)



Anthony Cacioppo/Pioneer Press

Marvin Kruse displays a portion of the flag he will bring as a gift to Sourdeval, France.

PIONEER PRESS

NEWS

## France honors local vet with Jubilee of Liberty

By KRIS BRUNST  
STAFF WRITER

More than 50 years after serving in World War II, Marvin Kruse, of unincorporated Leyden Township, is still receiving medals of honor.

Kruse was presented the Jubilee of Liberty Commemorative Medal on July 14 during a Bastille Day reception in Chicago hosted by the Consulate General of France.

Kruse already has received so many medals, including the Bronze Star, awarded for heroic service in combat, that he forgot he had applied for this one last year until he received a letter dated May 30 from the Consulate's office.

The Jubilee of Liberty medal was created for the 50th anniversary of D-Day. It was issued by the Regional Council of Normandy to commemorate the veterans of U.S. Armed Forces who landed on the beaches of Normandy in 1944 during the operation Overlord.

In the letter inviting Kruse to the Bastille Day celebration at the Chicago Cultural Center, Gerard Dumont, Le Consul General, said, "I believe there is no more fitting occasion for me to express before the French and francophile community gathered for France's National Day, the feelings of gratitude that my compatriots and I have for what you and your comrades in arms did for my country during WWII."

Kruse was one of 22 men from the Chicago area who were presented the Jubilee of Liberty medal during the recent ceremony.

"I felt honored that they did this," said the 75-year-old Kruse, adding that this is the third

individual medal he has received from France along with another medal that his entire division, The 28th Infantry Division, received.

"It was a nice gesture on the part of France," said Kruse, who is the secretary for the Franklin Park American Legion Post 974.

The Midwest District of the French Consulate has awarded about 450 of these medals to veterans around the region in the last year, said Stephane Catta, Chicago's deputy consulate general of France.

**"I felt honored that they did this. It was a nice gesture on the part of France."**

**Marvin Kruse**

Kruse, who served as a combat medic, has been back to France several times since his discharge in 1945, including the 50th anniversary gala celebration.

He said he likes the country and the people still appreciate what the allies did, even after all these years.

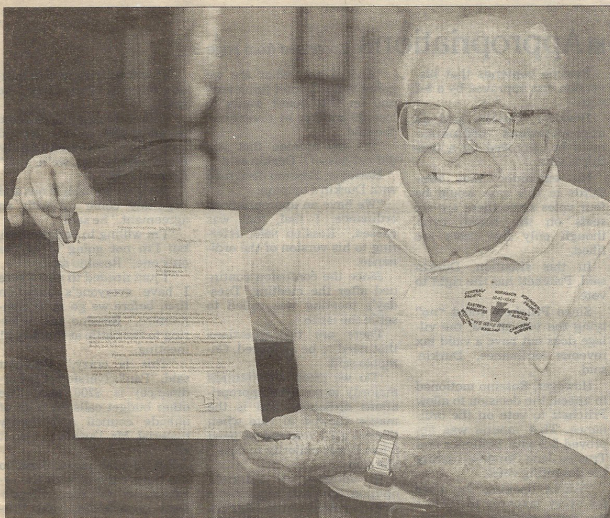
"Those people over there still shake your hand," Kruse said.

Reflecting on his three years of military service in the WWII, Kruse said "it was a great waste, but you have to do it to straighten the world out."

Kruse believes there was an indirect benefit from the war.

"Civilization did make more advances after the war than it would have just sitting around in a Depression," he said.

However, he added, "Fifty-five million people killed is a great price to pay."



Anthony Cacioppo/Pioneer Press

Marvin Kruse displays the Jubilee of Liberty commemorative medal and letter from the French Consul General he received for serving in the Allied Forces' liberation of France in 1944.



Marvin married Margaret Elaine Adair on August 31, 1946 in Maywood, Illinois.

**Front row-** Dorothy, Margaret, Marvin, Wilbur Kruse and wife Lois behind him at edge

**Second row-** Mary and Earl Adair (Margaret's parents), Tillie and Pops Kruse

**Third row-** William Kruse, Lois Kruse

**Fourth row-** Sophia Seegers Kruse (wife of William), Rudy Kruse, John Adair

**Fifth row-** Alice Adair, Maggie Miller Adair, John Wesley (JW) Adair

**Top right-** Dewey Adair and his wife Margaret in front of him and Clyde Adair at far right.

**Unknown-** Three unknowns at back in the center, but one may be Margaret's good friend, Leonta Beck with her husband John Newton.







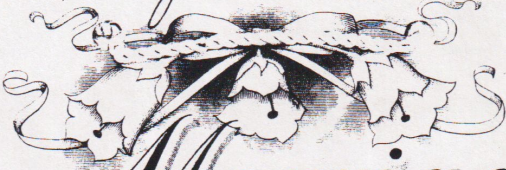
Gentleman at far left is Marvin's grandfather, William Kruse. Between him and Margaret is her sister, Dorothy.



Another photo with Marvin's grandparents.



# This is to Certify

that Mrs. Marvin C. Kruse  
 of Des Plaines, Ill.  
 and Miss Margaret E. Adair  
 of Maywood, Ill.  
 were by  me united

## in Marriage

according to the Ordinance of God and the  
 Laws of the State of Illinois  
 at Maywood on the 31st  
 day of August in the year of Our Lord,  
 One Thousand Nine Hundred and forty six.

"What therefore God hath joined Monson C. Galloway  
 together, let not man put asunder" Minister Methodist Church

Witnesses { Dorothy Adair  
William W. Kruse



Marvin joined the National Guard October 12, 1947 and was separated on October 11, 1950 in Maywood. Married with two dependents. He was assigned to Organization: Tank Co (M), 132d Inf Regt as Grade: Sergeant. Eyes Blue, Hair Brown, Height 5 ft, 4 in., Weight 163.

On May 14, 1951 Marvin entered into active service with U.S. Navy. He was assigned to U.S.S. Palau (CVE-122) in Norfolk, Virginia as PNI3 [Personnelman (Classification Interviewer) 3rd Class]. The ship went along the east coast as far south as Cuba. He was discharged February 20, 1952

BOOK 46 PAGE 437

# Army of the United States



## Honorable Discharge

*This is to certify that*

MARVIN C KRUSE

16 127 314 TEC 4 HQ 28th INFANTRY DIVISION

Army of the United States

*is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.*


*This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.*

*Given at* SEPARATION CENTER  
CAMP GRANT ILLINOIS

*Date* 2 October 1945

*Leonard A. Friberg*  
LEONARD A. FRIBERG  
Lt Colonel Infantry

# Honorable Discharge



from the Armed Forces of the United States of America

*This is to certify that*

MARVIN CHARLES KRUSE, PERSONNELMAN THIRD CLASS

*was Honorably Discharged from the*

## United States Navy

*on the 20th day of FEBRUARY 1952 This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service*

*By*  *SSA*



Marvin and Margaret purchased a house at 2051 Emerson Ave., Melrose Park, Illinois. Since Marvin worked nearby at International Harvester, this home was perfect.<sup>10</sup> All children lived here, too.



<sup>10</sup> See more details about the house: <https://adair.family/blog/kruse-seegers/216-paperwork-for-building-2051-emerson-history-of-house.html>

Marvin was a computer operator at Harvester.



He loved traveling seeing every steam engine and streetcar that he could. After retirement he was a volunteer at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union. He loved this opportunity.





While working, he took the family on several vacations. He towed a house trailer to Florida in 1952 and documented this trip.<sup>11</sup> We remember the price of gasoline.

Other trips include Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm in 1956. This trip included visits with Arthur Cartland Bailey and Maurine in San Diego.<sup>12</sup> Margaret was pregnant with Nancy on this trip which included visits to Los Angeles and Tijuana.

There were many other trips out of the country, too. He drove the family in the 1960 Ford Econoline to Mexico seeing Mexico City, Taxco, Cuernavaca and Acapulco. Trip was taken with family friend Belle Carter.

In 1994 he took the family on D-Day Tour to Europe. Marvin, with Margaret and other family, visited France and Germany many times remembering his time in World War II. Watch the video here; captions are included.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> <https://adair.family/blog/kruse-seegers/274-florida-1952.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWe1OSUCivY>

<sup>13</sup> <https://youtu.be/wmBGTko9xt4>



Marvin loved going to the Rateike Reunions every August. In this video he mentioned many of his relations.<sup>14</sup> He always enjoyed smiling. You will see this smile in every photograph of him.

Eventually, Marvin moved from 2051 Emerson to an assisted living facility in Huntley, Illinois. His daughter Nancy lived nearby and would visit often.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YL1UpiyhMTk>