

In Memory of Lawrence John Riedmann

Lawrence, or Lory as he was called in the family, was born August 5, 1930 on Al and Frances' 11th wedding anniversary. He attended St. Patrick's Grade School and South High School. After school he drove a truck and delivered pop for his dad at Willow Springs. His customers were fond of him. His older brother Al took over his route for him after he was called up into the Army to go to Korea. Al said they all the customers remembered him when news came out of his death in the war.

Lory was a carefree and fun-loving young man, with an ornery side that could get him in trouble. But because of his pleasing personality it was hard for people to get mad at him. He would tag along with brother Al and occasionally double date with him and his girlfriend, and future wife, Shirley. They use to go roller skating quite often. He also loved swimming at Peony Park and would attend dances there. He met Birdie Marsh and was dating her before he was called back into active duty. Actually, he may have had a couple girlfriends when left as one of his letters home hinted at. He had a Chevrolet that he used to drive and was very proud of. It was given to his brother Al when he left for Korea.

He originally enlisted in the Army in 1948 with the help of his mother. He was never fond of working at the pop plant and wanted to get away. After basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and his first tour he came back home. He was later recalled to active duty early in the Korean War on September 28, 1950. Lory was 20 years old. He was shipped to Korea on December 23rd originally as a cook in an artillery battalion. He arrived in Korea on January 1, 1951, shortly after the Chinese entry in the Korean War and the American retreat from the Chosin Reservoir and North Korea. He was transferred to the 2nd Division, [23rd Infantry Reg](#), E Company after he arrived in Korea. He fought during Operation Ripper, the UN counterattack to push the Communist Chinese forces back to the 38th parallel. He fought in the famous [Battle of Chipyeong-ni](#) three weeks before he was killed. This battle is regarded as the Gettysburg of the Korean War and was a major turning point in the war. His regiment earned the Presidential Unit Citation for their victorious stand against overwhelming Chinese forces.

Lory was killed in battle on March 8th, 1951. His company (Easy Company) was responsible for taking several hills outside a small village called Yangjimal. The hills were occupied by the North Koreans. He received the Purple Heart for his fatal injury. His parents, Al and Frances, were notified a month later by telegram on April 8th. Al was at work at the pop plant at 13th and Jones when the telegram came. The messenger who delivered the telegram stayed while Al read the letter and made sure Al was okay before he left the plant. Al called his daughter Frannie and asked her to go be with her mom at the house at 504 Martha. He then called the kids and told them about Lory. He asked that they wait until he went home and told Frances himself. The minute he walked in the door Frances knew it was about Lory. Al's face was white. In an eerie premonition both his mother and his sister Irene had nightmares about Lori dying around the time of his death.

Lory's body was returned to the United States. A Mass for him was held first at St. Patrick's Church on 14th and Castelar. He was taken to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas where a Requiem High Mass was held on October 15th and he was buried in the base cemetery. His grave site is at grave

300 C Station B. His mom wanted him buried there to be with the rest of his buddies whom he served with. His name can be also found on the Korean War Memorial at Memorial Park in Omaha. Lory posthumously was awarded a Purple Heart and received several other medals for his service. His nephew Chip has the flag which was draped over his casket and presented to his mother at his funeral. He has accumulated the medals Lory earned for his service. May he rest in peace.

Lory's Story is a compilation of his life leading up to and his experiences while in Korea. The story covers the battles he fought, including the battle he participated in on his final day, and the conditions he would endure while there. His story has been researched and documented by his nephew Chip Riedmann and can be viewed by downloading [Lory's Story here](#). Some information needs to be updated as more information has been discovered. The story will be updated at some time.