

Frederick Jacob James Boniface

Born: 1/15/1928

Died: June 2, 1979

Period of Service: Korea

Sources: Cemetery 013 26,
JG
Marian Boniface

Frederick Jacob James Boniface was born January 15, 1928 in Evanston, Illinois. His parents were Frederick Charles Boniface and Ruth (Young) Boniface. The plan, even before he was born, was to give him the three names but to call him Jim.

He was raised in Evanston, and went to school there. His grandparents, Agnes and Jacob Young, lived on Washington Island and he often visited them with his parents. He had two younger siblings, Diane and Jerry. Jerry succumbed to polio at the age of 14. Diane married Donald Jorgenson. Jim's parents purchased Dick Johnson's grocery from his widow Jeanie after Dick drowned in a fishing accident in July 1955. After the purchase, they moved to the Island. Diane was 17 and she naturally moved with them.

There was never any information about Jim's father. He always said he was from Canada and had been an orphan. He had been in the mounted police service there.

Jim met Marian on the Island in July of 1950. He was on vacation visiting his grandparents. She was also on a vacation with a girl friend. They were introduced by Charles (Chuck) Jorgenson at Nelson's Hall. He returned to Kenosha with Marian after the week's vacation and remained there, finding work.

Jim had been rejected for the draft because of a heart problem during World War II; however, in October of 1950 he was again drafted. This time they accepted him. He was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, MO, for basic training. He then went to Southern Pines, NC for maneuvers. In September 1951, Jim and Marian were married in Kenosha. In October he was sent to Korea.

He was in the 658th Quartermaster unit, laundry company, so he saw no major action. He was discharged in October, 1952, and returned to his wife in Kenosha. They remained there until October of 1974 when Jim and his partner John Bowen purchased Gordy's Tap, named it J-B's Tap, and operated it until March 1985, when Jim retired. He had previously purchased John's share and was then the sole owner.