

War Era Story Project 2012

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Age: 83

As a 15 year old boy, with older brothers in the service and sisters working in war factories, most of the farming chores fell to me, as father was incapacitated. Milking the cows morning and evening before and after school, planting and harvesting crops, and other chores kept me busy, however I never felt “put-upon” as this was my contribution toward the war effort. Upon graduation from high school, I did join the Army to serve my country. I was disappointed not to have the opportunity to serve in battle like my brothers. However, I did have the experience of serving from 1947 to 1949 in the Panama Canal Zone while we patrolled the Madden Dam to deter any enemy attack. For this service, I did gain a college education as a result of the GI Bill. After Army service, I continued to serve my country as a high school educator teaching science and math.