



VETERANS

★★★ HALL OF FAME ★★★

CLARENCE SHELEY

Clarence Sheley, at 104-and-a-half years old, continues to inspire others through his legacy of service, vibrant spirit and passion for making a difference in his community.

A WWII veteran, Mr. Sheley is a member of what is known as the “Greatest Generation.” On August 4, 1944, he joined the United States Navy. He was first sent to the United States Naval Training Station (USNTS) Sampson. There, he completed his Naval basic training and traveled to Seattle, Washington and then boarded the USS Sevier, which made its way to California.

Mr. Sheley recalls the devastating day that Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese forces. While he was not at the site when it was bombed, he was nearby. Mr. Sheley was honorably discharged at the rank of Hospital Apprentice First Class USNA, in January 1946. In recognition of his service, he was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal and World War II Victory Medal.

Upon completion of his service with the Navy, Mr. Sheley returned to the North Country to build his life. Family has always been important to him, and he was married to his beloved wife, Marie N. Sheley, for more than 60 years. The two had a daughter, Bonnie Kellogg, and a son, Robert Sheley. Today, he considers himself fortunate to be both a grandfather and great-grandfather.

After serving his country, Mr. Sheley continued to support his community in many ways. For nearly a half-century, he served as the Funeral Director at Pidcock Funeral Home in Adams, New York. In this role, he provided comfort to countless grieving families.

In addition, he also operated the ambulance in the community prior to the establishment of the South Jefferson Rescue Squad. In doing so, he provided a critical service to those in need of emergency care. Mr. Sheley also helped with a number of youth-related activities, including youth baseball. In recognition of his community service, he was named Adams “Citizen of the Year.”

Even in his advanced age, Mr. Sheley still finds time to engage in a hobby he loves — woodworking. To this day, he still spends time nearly every day working on special projects.

Mr. Sheley is a shining example of all one person can accomplish when they put serving their country — and their community — first. For this reason and so many others, he is truly a member of the “Greatest Generation.”



CLARENCE SHELEY WAS SELECTED AS A 2022
VETERANS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE BY
SENATOR PATTY RITCHIE.

2022