

## Story #918 William Brandon

Sergeant William Brandon (1924-1994) was a Mazomanie World War II veteran and a charter member of the Mazomanie Greening – Buelow American Legion Post #437.

William enlisted in the Marine Corps on August 18, 1941 with serial number 320554. He mustered out on September 30, 1945, having served four years. William served with Headquarters Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Marines on the *USS Sarasota*, an attack transport ship. He was wounded September 15, 1944 on White Beach in the Battle of Peleliu of the South Pacific Ocean. William received the Purple Heart from that action.

William Salisbury Brandon was born in St. Paul MN on April 26, 1924 to flower shop proprietor, William Mack Brandon and Mattie Salisbury. He is found there with his family at the 1930 as a five year old. William is found living in Mazomanie with his Uncle Keith Tyler at the 1940 US Census. He is listed as 15 years old. William graduated from the Mazomanie High School in 1941. His Mazomanie October 15, 1945 Draft Card listed him as 5'-6", 140 # with a ruddy complexion, brown hair and blue eyes. He was listed as unemployed.

After the war, William married Indiana born Marjorie Wesling (1925-2014) on June 22, 1948 in Chicago. She was the daughter of Indiana road construction engineer August Wesling and Hattie Wolfe. He attended Purdue University. The 1950 Monroe IA Census listed the young married couple. He is a 24 year old electrical engineer making radios. Later they lived in Evansville IN. William passed away in Florida on July 20, 1994 and is buried in the Florida National Cemetery of Bushnell FL with his wife. They had one son.

