

Ronald P. Bartels

**NAME:**

Ronald Paul Bartels

NICKNAME:

Blackie

SERVICE NUMBER:

500910

HOME OF RECORD:

Meehan Junction, MS

NEXT OF KIN:

Parents, Albert & Irene Bartels

DATE OF BIRTH:

3/6/1925

SERVICE DATES:

2/9/1943 – 4/8/1970

DATE OF DEATH:

12/13/1978

CAMPAIGN	UNIT	MOS	RATE	RESULT
Roi-Namur	A/1/24	745	Private	
Saipan	A/1/24	504	PFC	Sick
Tinian	A/1/24	504	PFC	WIA
Iwo Jima	A/1/24	607	PFC	WIA

INDIVIDUAL DECORATIONS:

Purple Heart with Gold Star

LAST KNOWN RANK:

Private First Class (WWII)

Master Sergeant (Retirement)

Ronald Bartels was born in Wisconsin in 1925. His family moved to Mississippi later that decade, and took up residence in Washington County. Ronald enlisted in the Marine Corps shortly before his eighteenth birthday; he attended boot camp in San Diego and trained with Company E of Camp Elliott's infantry battalion before being assigned to Company A, 24th Marines, on August 27, 1943.

"Blackie" Bartels originally qualified as a rifleman; he was reassigned to the weapons platoon when the company expanded, and became an ammunition carrier with the mortar section. He fought in the battle of Namur, after which he was promoted to Private First Class. Bartels stayed with the mortar section during the battle of Saipan; he was evacuated for illness on July 5, 1944. He may have been suffering from shell shock as the company lost heavily in a Japanese ambush – among the casualties were the first and second in command of Bartels' mortar section. Bartels returned to the company on July 8, in time to participate in the final days of the campaign.

Bartels was wounded in action during a Japanese *banzai* attack on Tinian; he was evacuated to a naval hospital on Hawaii to recover. He rejoined the company in the fall of 1944, once again taking a position as a mortarman. PFC Bartels was likely one of the senior members of his squad when they landed on Iwo Jima on February 19, 1945; he was one of several mortar men wounded by Japanese shellfire on the night of the landing.

2-20-45 Iwo Jima Battle
BARTELS, Ronald Paul
Pfc USMCR 500910
WOUND, FRAGMENT, RT. BUTTOCKS "K"
2-23-45 Discharged to duty.

Log of operations, USS Hinsdale.

Blackie was evacuated to the *USS Hinsdale* (APA 120) for treatment; he returned to the battle on February 26 and fought through the rest of the battle.



"Blackie" Bartels after Iwo Jima.

Bartels remained with Able Company through April, 1945; with two wounds and four campaigns under his belt, he had more than earned the right to head stateside, and spent the last months of World War Two guarding the Naval Air Station in Miami, Florida.

Even with the experience of World War Two behind him, Ronald Bartels decided to make a living in the Marines. After he married Elizabeth Snow in June, 1946, Bartels embarked on a career that would stretch until April, 1970. Although he never again served overseas, he is credited with service during the Korean and Vietnam wars, and eventually retired with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Bartels died in 1978. He is buried in [Section 67, Site 1354 of Arlington National Cemetery](#).

Ronald Paul Bartels

Service Info.:	MGYSGT US MARINE CORPS WORLD WAR II, KOREA, VIETNAM
Birth Date:	6 Mar 1925
Death Date:	13 Dec 1978
Service Start Date:	1 Mar 1946
Interment Date:	15 Dec 1978
Cemetery:	Arlington National Cemetery
Cemetery Address:	C/O Director Arlington, VA 22211
Buried At:	Section 67 Site 1354
<u>World War II Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Casualties, 1941-1945</u> about Ronald P Bartels	

Ronald P Bartels

Relative Name:	Mr. and Mrs. Albert J Bartels
Relative Relationship:	Parents (<i>Parent</i>)
State:	Mississippi
Country:	United States
Type of Casualty:	Wounded In Action
Roll:	ww2c_27