

## Childhood Memories:

- When and where were you born (get exact date)?
- Parents names (correct spelling):
- Siblings names (birth order):
- What did your parents do for a living?
- What were your chores around the house?
- Did you play any sports?
- Who were special childhood friends?
- What's your favorite childhood memory:

## Jogging Memory:

- Were you drafted or did you enlist?
- Where were you living at the time?
- If you enlisted, why did you join?
- How did you pick the service branch you joined?
- Tell me about your first days - boot camp/training experience(s).

## Experiences:

- Which war(s) did you serve in (WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf)?
- Where exactly did you go?
- Do you remember arriving and what it was like?
- What was your job/assignment?
- Did you see combat?
- Were there many casualties in your unit?
- Tell me about a couple of your most memorable experiences.
- Were you a prisoner of war?
- Tell me about your experiences in captivity and when freed.
- Were you awarded any medals or citations?
- How did you get them?
- Higher ranks may be asked about battle planning. Those who sustained injuries may be asked about the circumstances.

## Personal Life:

- How did you stay in touch with your family?
- What was the food like?
- Did you have plenty of supplies?
- What kinds of pressure or stress did you experience?
- Was there something special you did for "good luck"?

- How did the enlisted men (and women) entertain themselves?
- Were there entertainers?
- What did you do when on leave?
- Where did you travel while in the service?
- Do you recall any particularly humorous or unusual event?
- What were some of the pranks that you or others would pull?
- Do you have photographs? Can you identify people in the photographs?
- Did you keep a personal diary?

## After Service:

- Do you recall the day your service ended?
- Where were you?
- What did you do in the days and weeks afterward?
- Did you work or go back to school?
- Was your education supported by the G.I. Bill?
- Did you make any close friendships while in the service?
- Did you continue any of those relationships? If so, how long?
- Did you join a veteran's organization?

## Later Years and Closing:

- Did your military experience influence your thinking about war or about the military in general?
- If in a veteran's organization, what kinds of activities does your post or association have?
- Do you attend reunions?
- How did your service and experiences affect your life?

## \*Important for A BOOK by ME Project\*

- What experience would you say had the most effect on your life? Inspired you the most, encouraged you, impacted you to make a decision, etc
- What are some important dates (DOB, date of enlistment, date of marriage, etc)?
- What lesson would you like kids to take from your story?
- Can we take a picture together? I want that for the back of my book.