

War Era Story Project 2012

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Age: 74

What I remember about WWII

I was born July 21, 1938, but I remember some things of WWII. I remember going to stores with my mother to shop for groceries. We were issued from the government ration books for groceries. You could only buy things like coffee, sugar and milk that were rationed because of the war. There was not much meat, but we survived. We ate a lot of greens beans. We were also issued tokens (coins) for things I do not remember anymore. I remember the Air Raid Wardens in our neighborhood coming through our street at night to pull down your window shades or turn off your lights.

I remember the biggest thrill of my Life the day we heard Japan surrendered. Everybody in the neighborhood came out into the streets banging pots and pans to celebrate. This was all before television was around. I remember the day my brother in the Marines came home from the war. He was in the Invasion of Guam and guarded Jap POW camps. In grade school, I remember being issued a metal dog tag with my name and blood type on it, with a chain to wear around our necks during school time, in case of emergency. Transportation was mainly by street car in those days.

I still have my school dog tag plus my Army time dog tags. Also we had Air raid drills in school I remember. We would all go down to the basement of the school during that time. That's all I can remember. I remember Air Raid Sirens going off with Air raids.