



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION | DIGITAL LONG ISLAND | EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



Richard Talmage Showing Off his Army Uniform Next to a DeSoto

This photograph of World War II veteran Richard Thomas Talmage (1923-2000) in uniform with a DeSoto reminded me of similar images of my maternal grandfather and Lance Corporal Jordan Haerter with his truck, an iconic image of a young man in uniform posing next to an automobile. This image is part of the Library's Springs Historical Society digital archive, which includes photographs of many veterans. Richard Talmage is not the only veteran in multiple photographs, however, the big smile and playful poses from Richard made me wonder about his story.

Richard Talmage was the third of three children born to Ethel Hanney and Lawrence Stanley Talmage in East Hampton, probably in Springs. According to

the 1930 census, the family lived on Fireplace Road, and Lawrence (better known as Stanley) worked as a farmer. Richard's mother Ethel appears to be the regular correspondent for the Springs column in *The East Hampton Star*, which is how we know he had leave to come home multiple times during the war.

Even though Richard appears with [a Marine Aviation sign](#) in one of the photos, both the *Star* and his Army service records indicate Richard served in the Army. He enlisted in February 1943, with four years of high school education. In June 1943, Talmage wrote home from Camp McCain in Grenada, Mississippi. Between September and December 1944, the Army sent Talmage to Kessler Field in Mississippi, then Harlingen, Texas, Chanute Field, Illinois and Greensboro, North Carolina. He came home from Tampa on leave in March 1945 as a Sergeant. A year later, on March 14, 1946, Richard Talmage came home from Guam, with an honorable discharge. Richard married Alice Allen Bass in Stewart, Tennessee in 1947. The couple returned to East Hampton to raise their family.

EXPLORE MORE

[The Digital Long Island Collection](#) is part of New York Heritage Digital Collections. Included are searchable scans of deeds, drawings, etchings, inventories, letters, maps, paintings, pardons, patents, photographs, plans, postcards, prints, sculptures, sketches, textiles, tiles, yearbooks and more to come.

[The East Hampton Star Archive](#) is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!

[The Karl Grossman Research Archive](#) is an extensive collection of materials digitized from the personal archive of Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter, columnist, author, and current professor of journalism at SUNY Old Westbury. The archive brings together a decades long career in reporting and journalism with topics ranging from the economy and pollution to fishing and East Hampton Town. Patrons are capable of searching this 9,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

[The Local Artist Research Archive](#) is a collection of over 19,000 items digitized from Guild Hall, containing materials including personal letters, photographs, news clippings, and art catalogs concerning artists of the East End. Patrons are capable of searching this archive by collection, title, or keyword search.



Welcome to the Long Island Collection's "Item of the Week."

We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, newspapers, and whaling logs. We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have. Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the collection to Digital Long Island on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

Please visit us at the Library, make use of our extensive online digital resources, or contact us for assistance. Public hours are: Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Sat., 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Researched and written by:

Andrea Meyer, Librarian/Archivist, Head of Collection, Long Island Collection

Andrea Meyer began working in the Long Island Collection in January 2015. Her responsibilities include updating Digital Long Island, scanning, processing new collections, and assisting patrons with research. She earned her M.L.I.S. through Long Island University, and completed her M.A. in Archives and Public History at New York University through the dual-degree program. Andrea started working in archives in 2005. Prior to working for the East Hampton Library, Andrea worked at the New Jersey State Archives, at NYU Libraries, and as a private research consultant. Her clients included the New-York Historical Society. She is also involved with the Sag Harbor Historical Society.

andrea@easthamptonlibrary.org | (631) 324-0222 ext. 4 | www.easthamptonlibrary.org

