



About Luther R. Manus Jr. Owner of Manus Enterprises and Vietnam War Veteran

Luther R. Manus Jr. was born in Erie, Pennsylvania in 1927. Luther dropped out of high school in 1943 and worked a stream of various jobs until 1946, when he was drafted into the United State Army. After basic training, Luther served in Hawaii, the Philippine Islands, and Japan until 1949.

After completing his tour of service, Luther returned to Erie, where he completed a GED program. Luther served with the active US Army as a First Lieutenant and is Gannon's oldest living Afro-American ROTC graduate. Luther is the first and only member of his immediate family (siblings) with a high school and college degrees.

Luther went on to serve during the Vietnam War. His service earned him a Bronze Star Medal. Luther retired from the US Army after a total of 24 years of military service.

Luther started a new career by working for the Erie School District, starting in 1971. For 18 years, Luther worked as a counselor. He retired in 1989. During these years, Luther also served the community in a

variety of Board and Committee positions, including sitting on Mayor Louis J. Tullio's Blue Ribbon Committee and the Erie Housing Authority's Board of Incorporators. It was during his tenure as a Board member that the authority erected Friendship Towers located at the intersection of E 11th and French Street. His daughters Denise and Stephanie Manus and Luther formed Manus Enterprise which owns and operates Manus Sunoco Mini Mart located at 26 East 12th Street, between State and French. Manus Sunoco has served Erie's urban core for nearly 30 years. Manus Mini Mart is Sunoco's only minority female owned and veteran supported service station and convenience store located north of Interstate 80.

Luther is married to Connie Manus. Together they have six children, Denise, Stephanie, Carlton and Cynthia all of Erie. Dr. Sandi Manus Fields, Summerfield, N.C. and Alicia Jean-Noel of Brooklyn, New York. Luther and Connie's commitment to serving others has been passed down to all of their children. The Manus family is passionate about assisting families and individuals with obtaining financial support to pursue post-secondary education.