



**EDUCATE  
HONOR  
CHALLENGE**

Mr. David Silberman, 88- years-old and a Korean War Veteran, traveled from Fredericksburg Virginia to tell us his story of being nominated for a Freedoms Foundation Award for Americanism in 1973. Being nominated for the award changed his life. When he received the post card telling him about his nomination Mr. Silberman stated” I felt so happy and really felt an honor to receive it.” He thought, “This is my high school diploma and my PhD from college.”

David was a high school dropout at 16 years-old and started working for a theatrical photographer in New York. The owner took David under his wing and taught him business life, attitude, & basics of portrait photography. David joined the Air Force at the age of 18. They wanted Mr. Silberman to be a drill sergeant, but he wanted to be a photographer. As a PFC, he was the lowest ranked in the photo laboratory. A Major General needed his portrait taken and no one in the office volunteered because they were afraid. David volunteered and was confident in his abilities. The Major General loved his picture, and the PFC outshone everyone.

After leaving the Air Force, Mr. Silberman worked at Long Island Press as a newspaper photographer for 6 years. He believes Dr. Martin Abend, a professor of history at a New York college and Channel 5 TV host, who he became friends with, nominated him for a Freedoms Foundation National Award.

Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Silberman for traveling to share your story!

