



William "Bill" Andrew Manbeck
1926 – 1945



William A. Manbeck was the second of three children born to William L. Manbeck and his wife, Delores, also known as Della. William L. and Delores were married May 23, 1923 in Iron Mountain, Michigan. William A's older sister was Illa Mae, born in 1925; William A. was born in 1926, and Betty Lou was born in 1927. Both Illa Mae and William A. were born in Iron Mountain; Betty Lou was born in Mercer, Wisconsin.

William L. was born in Eagle River, Wisconsin June 30, 1896 (he was known by his middle name, Lotus). Della was born in Outagamie County, Wisconsin March 15, 1906. William L. worked as a carpenter and other jobs to make ends meet. During World War Two, Della worked in Milwaukee as a defense worker. William A. attended Eagle River Union High School and supposedly graduated in 1942.



Eagle River Union High School



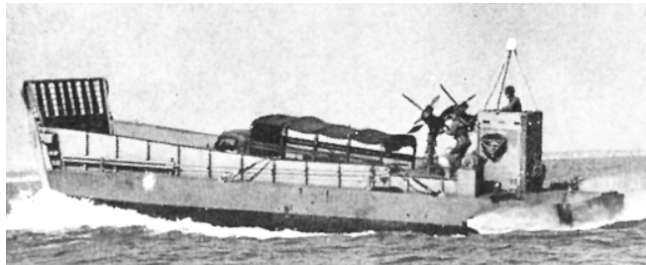
1941 Year Book "Northern Trail"

William A. Manbeck enlisted in the U.S. Navy in May 1942. He served aboard the USS Electra, an attack cargo ship.

	
Name:	USS Electra
Namesake:	Electra
Builder:	Tampa Shipbuilding Company, Tampa, Florida
Laid down:	as MV Meteor
Launched:	18 November 1941
Acquired:	16 April 1941
Commissioned:	17 March 1942, as USS Electra (AK-21)
Decommissioned:	19 March 1946
Reclassified:	AKA-4 (attack cargo ship), 1 February 1943
Recommissioned:	3 May 1952
Decommissioned:	13 May 1955
Honours and awards:	6 battle stars (World War II)
Fate:	Sold for scrap, 7 June 1974



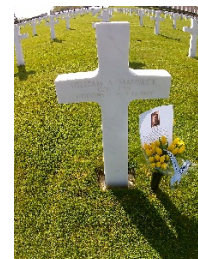
As of October 10th 1943 William A. was assigned to small boat unit amphibious forces. As a coxswain of an LCM, landing craft, medium, used to move tanks and troops from the large ships to the shore, he participated actively in the D-Day invasion of France.



As the Allied armies moved east through France and Belgium, William A. was re-assigned to USN 122.5. The 3 units were attached 1st, 3rd and 7th Army too help the U.S. army crossing the Rhine river. 16 USN LCM's were transported inland on Army Corps of Engineers' flatbed trucks to the west bank of the Rhine River.



On the 13th of March, William Andrew Manbeck fell off a motorcycle – off duty at time of injury but not on authorized liberty. He was transferred immediately to the 128th Evacuation Hospital ship in the Atlantic, U.S. Army APO 230 where he died on the 14th of March 1945 due to wound contused severe brain damage and interred at the military cemetery in Henry Chapelle, Belgium.



Plot D, Row 4, Grave 42



War Memorial, Vilas County courthouse. Wisconsin US

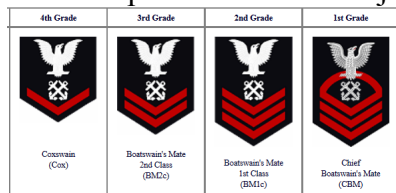
Although exact counts were never kept, the Navy boat units directly ferried more than 26,000 troops and 4,000 vehicles to the east bank of the Rhine and brought back thousands of prisoners and wounded. They helped build, maintain, and protect the temporary bridges constructed by Army engineers. The U.S. Navy boat units proved on the Rhine that when it came

to crossing an expanse of water, expertise and specialized tools made a difference—especially when combined with a can-do spirit.


http://ravey.net/electra/gallery_unident.html

https://www.ancestry.com/1940-census/usa/Wisconsin/William-A-Manbeck_2p2dyt

Name: Manbeck William A.
 Rank: coxswain
 Enlistment date: Mai 1942
 Previous profession: Lumberjack



BOATSWAIN'S MATE: Chief 1893¹ - present
 1st & 2nd Class 1885 - present
 3rd Class 1948 - present

 Captains of the Tops: 3rd Class 1885 - 1893¹
 Captain of the Afterguard: 3rd Class 1885 - 1893¹
 Coxswain: 3rd Class 1885 - 1948²

During the period between 1885 and 25 February 1893, the title of Chief Boatswain's Mate was used for the petty officer grade of Boatswain's Mate 1st Class though the rank of chief petty officer had not been established.

1. G.O. 409, 25 February 1893 effective 1 April 1893
2. BPCL 40-47, 21 February 1947 effective 2 April 1948



Coxswain Insignia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
 (Redirected from Coxswain Badge)

The **Coxswain Insignia** is a qualification device of the **United States Coast Guard** which is issued to enlisted or officer personnel who qualify as a **coxswain**. The Coxswain on a Coast Guard Small Boat is in charge of the vessel and all personnel on board.^[1] Coxswains, while underway, operate without regard to rank or seniority.^[1] A Coxswain in the Coast Guard has a responsibility that is normally only undertaken by officers in other branches of the military.

Age	14, born abt 1926	
Birthplace	Michigan	
Gender	Male	
Race	White	
Home in 1940	End 45 Lincoln, Vilas, Wisconsin	
Household Members	Age	
Head	Lotus William Manbeck	43
Wife	Della D Manbeck	33
Daughter	Illa Mae Manbeck	15
Son	William A Manbeck	14
Daughter	Betty Lone Manbeck	12

Name:	Della D Manbeck
Birth Date:	1906
Death Date:	1962
Cemetery:	Eagle River Cemetery
Burial or Cremation Place:	Eagle River, Vilas County, Wisconsin, USA
Has Bio?:	N
URL:	http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-...

VITAL RECORD INFORMATION

Last Name: **Manbeck**
 First Name: **William Lotus**
 Birth Year: **1896**
 Birth Month: **6**
 Birth Day: **30**
 County: **Vilas**

<http://www.fieldsofhonor-database.com/index.php/en/american-war-cemetery-henri-chapelle-m/58629-manbeck-william-a>

<http://www.honorstates.org/index.php?id=123781>

<https://www.usni.org/magazines/navalhistory/2015-04/landing-troops-across-rhine>

<https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/r/recollections-of-lieutenant-wilton-wenker-and-lieutenant-elby-concerning-the-crossing-of-the-rhine-river-in-1945.html>

<https://books.google.de/books?id=mhJE9XFacGwC&pg=PA318&lpg=PA318&dq=Task+Unit+122.5.1&source=bl&ots=2iYwMZDBO9&sig=szIaLVvsv3DJ4mYVomH5vabAGOs&hl=de&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiU0PD4pIjTAhWfCBoKHcTPCZwQ6AEIIzAA#v=onepage&q=Task%20Unit%20122.5.1&f=false>

Born: 1925 in Iron Mountain, Michigan

School: Eagle River Union High School, graduated in 1942

Served: aboard the USS Electra after that, coxswain of an LCM Small Boat Unit, participated in the D-Day invasion. During the winter, the Navy decided to reinforce the units with LCMs. Although these boats were harder to transport overland, they could carry a medium tank—an important capability in the early stages of a crossing. Fifty-four LCMs sailed from England to Antwerp under their own power and thence down the Albert Canal.