



News Release

Military Officers Association of America
Southwest Virginia Chapter
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MOAA SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER HOSTS WWII SURVIVOR REGINE ARCHER AT MAY DINNER PROGRAM

The SWVA MOAA Chapter May 2018 Dinner Program hosted Mrs. Regine Nozyce Archer, who shared her inspiring story of endurance and heroism in war-torn Belgium. With a large audience in attendance at the Shenandoah Club in Roanoke, Virginia, she shared WWII experiences, a saga of survival which kept everyone enthralled the entire evening.

Born in 1924 in Krakow, Poland, Regine's family moved to Liege, Belgium when she was a young girl, little knowing that by 1940 they would be caught up in a great global conflict. Forced to hide her Jewish heritage from the Nazi occupiers, Regine and her sister took refuge in a Belgian convent, where only the Mother Superior knew the truth about the refugees. When the war returned to Belgium in 1944, she became a nurse for wounded soldiers and civilians, and eventually an interpreter for the U.S. Army, where she met her future husband. She became the "war bride" of 1942 Virginia Tech graduate and US Army Major James Archer. Together they raised six children, started and grew a successful family business in Salem and western Virginia.

Mrs. Archer is now the retired CEO of the Blue Ridge Beverage Company and two of her children are members of MOAA SWVA – MG Jim Archer and COL Bob Archer.



(Regine Archer, a Belgium native, shared her unique story of living in Belgium during the war.)



Mrs. Regine Archer, enthralled the MOAA SWVA Chapter at the Shenandoah Club in Roanoke, Virginia.



(WWII Survivor, Mrs. Regine Archer, poses with the MOAA SWVA Chapter Surviving Spouses)