



Tips for Success

| Strategy | Description | Why It Works |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Try Name Variations | Search with initials, nicknames, or alternate spellings (e.g., Charles W. Smith verses C.W. Smith) | Broadens search and catches records with slight differences |
| Add Contextual Keywords | Include unit numbers, ship names, or campaigns (e.g., "36th Infantry Italy 1943") | Narrows results to relevant records |
| Use Quotation Marks | Group terms with quotes (e.g., "USS Enterprise") | Keeps search results precise and focused |