

'RIGHT NOW, I'M HAPPY'



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From left, World War II veteran Roland "Bud" Pater talks with Darcie Greuel and Ann Knabe, both visitors from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Milwaukee, during his 106th birthday party Monday at his home in Mount Pleasant.

Local veteran turns 106

'Bud' Pater might be state's oldest to have served in World War II

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MOUNT PLEASANT — Roland "Bud" Pater is celebrating his 106th birthday as perhaps the

oldest living World War II veteran in Wisconsin.

Two visitors from Veterans Affairs in Milwaukee marked the occasion Monday by attending Pater's birthday party in Mount Pleasant and delivering personal regards.

Ann Knabe and Darcie Greuel brought Pater a birthday cake and two "challenge coins," which are

medallions shared with military members to commemorate good conduct or individual achievement.

"What an honor," Greuel said after meeting Pater. "It's like walking back in time."

Pater, who was born in 1915, spent his 106th birthday Monday, Oct. 11, surrounded by friends and well-wishers at home, shar-

ing memories of his childhood and his military service.

"Right now, I'm happy," he said to those gathered around him. "So many nice people."

Few remain

Pater's historic birthday comes as American World War II

Please see VETERAN, Page A3