Shigeo Ashikawa was born on June 10, 1919 in Honolulu, Oahu. He was the son of Kanzo and Kiyoko (Takahashi) Ashikawa. He was educated at Central Intermediate School on Oahu and Konawaena High and Elementary School on Hawaii. Before entering the service he was a farmer at Ashikawa Cotton Factory, Hawaii.

On November 14, 1941 Shigeo Ashikawa was inducted into the Army at Holualoa, Hawaii (Serial No. 30 101 768). He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu with the 298th Infantry Regiment and later at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi with the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company A. He saw service in the Hawaiian Islands, the continental United States, Algeria, and Italy. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific, American, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals, and the World War II Victory Medal. Pvt Shigeo Ashikawa was killed in action near Cassino, Italy on January 12, 1944 in the Salerno to Cassino Campaign and is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Honolulu.