

## **Pfc Charlie S Fujiki**

**1924 – February 9, 1946**



Charlie S. Fujiki (ASN 39931130) was born in 1924 in the farming community of Watsonville, CA, the third son of Tomogoro and Misaye Fujiki. He and his older brothers Jack Kaoru and Shigeru Tom were later joined by brothers Akira and Haruo and sister Satsuki. Charlie had completed his third year of high school in Watsonville, CA. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, under Executive Order 9066 all persons of Japanese ancestry, citizens or not were ordered to be interned. The Fujiki family No. 12220 were first interned at the Salinas Assembly Center in the spring of 1942 and later interned at the Poston internment Camp in Arizona. Charlie graduated high school at Poston and volunteered for the Army and was inducted at Fort

Douglas, Utah on September 15, 1944 following his brother, Shigeru, into the service by three months. Following training, Charlie and Shigeru were shipped over seas.

Pfc Charlie S Fujiki was assigned to Co. C, 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and his brother Shigeru was assigned to Company I, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team. Both of the Fujiki brothers participated in the Italian Po Valley Campaign as the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team cracked the Gothic Line in the early morning hours of April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945, accomplishing the feat for which the 92<sup>nd</sup> Division and the Fifth Army battled 5 month with no success. This breakthrough by the Nisei Combat Team enabled the American Fifth Army and the Allied forces to drive the Germans back with superior forces on the ground and in the air to eventual surrender within a month.

After the surrender of German forces, the Nisei Combat Team processed Prisoners of War, and guarded military installation. For unavailable reason Pfc Charlie S. Fujiki died on February 9, 1946 and is buried in the American Cemetery at Florence, Italy.

Pfc. Charles S Fujiki was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He was survived by his parents, Tomogoro and Misaye Fujiki.(now deceased) brothers; Kaoru Jack, T/5 Shigeru Tom Fujiki served with I Company and Regimental Company, 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and other brothers, Akira, and Haruo, and a sister Satsuki.

On May 28, 1946, a service was held at the Watsonville Pioneer Cemetery to honor Pfc Charlie Fujiki and four other men of Watsonville who died during the war. His name is also inscribed on the Poston Memorial honoring the men who died in World War II while their families were interned there.

*Compiled by Mits Kojimoto with data from  
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