Tamotsu Hanida was born on September 25, 1919 in Waiakoa, Maui. He was the son of Shohei and Shunmin (Sato) Hanida. He was educated at Kealahou School on Maui. Before entering the service he was a yardman.

On March 24, 1941 Tamotsu Hanida was inducted into the Army at Wailuku, Maui (Serial No. 30 101 288). He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu and Camp Paukukalo, Maui with the 299th Infantry Regiment and later at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi with the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company C. He saw service in the Hawaiian Islands, the continental United States, Algeria, and Italy. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, the Asiatic-Pacific, American, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals, and the World War II Victory Medal. Pfc Tamotsu Hanida was killed in action near Ceresuolo and Cassino, Italy on November 29, 1943 in the Salerno to Cassino Campaign and is interred at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery on Maui.

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