Harold Tanoshi Higashi was born on May 1, 1918, in Kahului, Maui. He was the son of Tomezo and Chiyo (Kato) Higashi. He was educated at Baldwin High School, Maui and the University of Hawaii, Oahu. He was a student at the time of induction.

On November 13, 1941, Harold Tanoshi Higashi was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks on Oahu (Serial number, 30101796). He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu; Camp McCoy, Wisconsin; and Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He served with the 298th Infantry Battalion and the 100th Infantry Battalion, E Company, in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, and Italy. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Corporal Harold Tanoshi Higashi was killed in action near Venafro, Italy, on November 4, 1943, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign. He is interred at the Maui Veterans Center in Makawao, Maui.

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