Gerome M. Hirata was born in Honolulu, Oahu, on February 19, 1919. He was the son of Shotaro and Misao (Takamatsu) Hirata. He was educated at Waikiki School, Washington Intermediate School, McKinley High School, Oahu. Before entering the service, he was a clerk at Bishop Trust Co., Ltd., Oahu.

In March 25, 1941, he was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu (Serial No. 30101081). He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu; Camp McCoy, Wisconsin; and Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He served with the 298th Infantry Regiment and the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company B, in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria and Italy. He was awarded the Purple Heart, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pfc Gerome M. Hirata was killed in action on November 6, 1943, near Oliveto, Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign, and is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Honolulu, Hawaii.

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