

## **Pfc. Roy Y. Ikeda**

October 15, 1918 – April 5, 1945



Roy Y. Ikeda was born in Kimberly, Idaho, on October 15, 1918 to Kakichi and Takeko Taketani Ikeda. He was a graduate of Carbon High School in Price, Utah. The family moved to San Francisco where Roy was employed as a barber. Prior to Pearl Harbor, he volunteered for the Army and was inducted in 1941 and received training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He was with Company B 33rd Bn. Fort McClellan, Alabama.

and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He was assigned to Company C, 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

While Ikeda was in the Army, in May 1942 the family was ordered to evacuate San Francisco and first sent to the Tanforan Assembly Center near San Francisco, then interned at the Topaz Relocation Center in Utah. Pfc. Ikeda was wounded on October 16th, 1944, in the bloody battle in the Vosges forest during the liberation of the town of Bruyeres, France. During that winter the 442nd RCT was in southern France in the Champagne Campaign, and Pfc. Ikeda received a citation after his raiding party captured 14 Germans and killed 3 during a fierce fire fight.

In April 1945 the 100th/442nd RCT was ordered back to Italy to join the Fifth Army where they helped cracked the Gothic Line after 8 hours of scaling a 3,000-foot mountain near Azzano, Italy. Pfc. Ikeda was killed as the 442 RCT accomplished in 32 minutes what the Allied forces could not for 5 months, which led to an Allied victory less than a month later. But there was a price to pay.

Pfc. Ikeda was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star, Distinguished Unit Badge, Purple Heart olc, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. Pfc. Roy Ikeda is interred at the Golden Gate National Cemetery (0 1081) at San Bruno, California, 20 miles south of San Francisco.

Pfc Roy Ikeda was killed in action on April 5, 1945, in Italy.

Pfc Roy Ikeda was survived by his mother, Mrs. Takeko Ikeda; three sisters, Kayoko Mary,

Ruby, Deo June; and two brothers, Pvt. Donald Ikeda, (Camp Blanding, FL) and George (Duke).

Prepared for "Echoes of Silence" by Mits Kojimoto and Cindy Kumagawa (03 Jan 2004)