James J. Kanada, son of Suejiro and Tatsumi Fukugawa Kanada, was born on September 3, 1923 in Concord, California. He was one of six siblings—Frank M., Aki, George, Harry, James J., and Tatsuki.

James was a farmer at the time the War broke out, and his family was evacuated to the Gila River Relocation Camp in Arizona.

James was inducted into the Army (Serial # 39 865 496) and received his basic training at Camp Blanding, Florida. He served with the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Company A and was killed in action on April 5, 1945 during the last push in the Po Valley Campaign in Italy just weeks before the War ended in Europe.

Pvt. James Kanada was awarded the Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman Badge and is interred at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California.