James Kameo Komatsu was born on November 10, 1917, in Honolulu, Oahu. He was the son of Kajiro and Sugano (Tsukiashi) Komatsu. He was educated at Washington Intermediate School, Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed as an electrician for Contractors, Pacific Naval Air Bases, Oahu.

James Kameo Komatsu was inducted into the Army on November 15, 1941, at Schofield Barracks, Oahu. Serial number, 30102438. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He served with the 298th Infantry Regiment and the 100th Infantry Battalion, Company B, in the Hawaiian Island, continental United States, Algeria, Italy, and France. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Distinguished Unit Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pfc. James Kameo Komatsu was killed in action on October 21, 1944, at Bruyeres, France, during the Vosges Mountain-St. Die Campaign. He is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Honolulu, Hawaii.