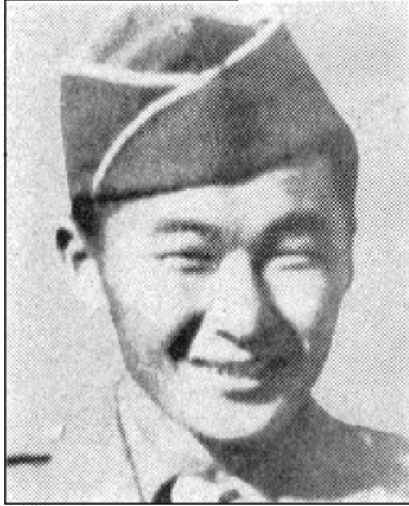


Pvt Masaji Howard Kutara

February 20, 1917 - December 5, 1943



Masaji Howard Kutara was born on February 20, 1917, in Honolulu, Oahu. He was the son of Kumazo and Den (Fujimoto) Kutara. He was educated Pohukaina School, Washington Intermediate School, and McKinley High School in Oahu. He married Hideko Kusunoki of Honolulu, Oahu, on May 3, 1941. Before entering the service, he was a clerk with the United States Post Office in Honolulu, Oahu.

Kutara (SN 30101134) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu.. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu with the 298th Infantry Regiment. He was later reassigned to Company B, 100th Infantry Battalion for advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Upon completion of combat training in the continental United States, he was dispatched overseas to Algeria, Africa and subsequently participated in the landing at Salerno, Italy and the Italian Campaign.

He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pvt. Masaji Howard Kutara was killed in action near Castelnuova, Italy during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on December 5, 1943.

He is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Exerpts taken from *In Freedom 's Cause: A Record of the Men of Hawaii Who Died in the Second World War* (1949) with permission from The University of Hawaii Press.
Russell K. Shoho