Pfc Richard Keiji Magarifuji  
May 31, 1918 - June 2, 1944

Richard Keiji Magarifuji was born in Kailua Maui on May 31, 1918. He was the son of Keitaro and Kinu (Tsuboi) Magarifuji. He attended Paia School, Maui High School, and Coyne Electrical School in Chicago, Illinois. He worked as an electrician for Maui Electric Company before entering the service.

Magarifuji (SN 30101679) was inducted into the U.S. Armed Forces on June 6, 1941. He served in the 299th Infantry Regiment Hawaii National Guards and Company C 100th Infantry Battalion.

He trained in Hawaii, Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served in the Hawaiian Islands, continental United States, Algeria, North Africa and Italy.

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

Pfc Richard K. Magarifuji was killed in action near Lanuvio and Netunno, Italy, during the Anzio to Rome Campaign on June 2, 1944.

He is interred at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery, Makawao, Hawaii.

Excerpts 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.