Lawrence Kidan Masumura was born in Lihue, Kauai, on July 4, 1918. He was the son of Bunzaemon and Hite (Umeji) Masumura. He was educated at Lihue School, Kauai High School, Kauai, and Phillips Commercial School, Oahu. He married Eleanor Haruyo Matsuoka, of Honolulu, on September 27, 1941. Before entering the service, he was employed as a bookkeeper for W. A. Ramsay, Ltd. in Honolulu, Oahu.

Masumura (SN 30102307) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on November 15, 1941. He trained at Schofield Barracks with the 298th Infantry Regiment. He was assigned to Company A, 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, Combat Infantryman Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American, and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Sgt. Lawrence Kidan Masumura was killed in action near Capriati, Italy during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on November 29, 1943.

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

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