Taro Nishitani was born in Honolulu, Oahu, on October 15, 1919. He was the son of Matsutaro and Tazu (Mitsuda) Nishitani. He was educated at Kaahumanu School, Washington Intermediate School, McKinley High School, Galusha School of Business Training in Oahu. Before entering the service, he was a truck driver.

Nishitani (SN 30101009) was inducted into the Army at Honolulu, Oahu in March, 1941. He took basic training at Schofield Barracks, Oahu and subsequently advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

He served with the 298th Infantry Regiment in Hawaii and later transferred to Company A, 100th Infantry Battalion during combat training in the continental United States.

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

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

Pvt. Taro Nishitani was killed in action near Scapoli and Cassino, Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on November 30, 1943.

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