Robert I. Sakamoto was born in Hilo, Hawaii, on October 26, 1920. He was the son of Haojito and Kuni Sakamoto. He was educated at Hilo Union School, Hilo Intermediate School, Hawaii. Before entering the service, he was a laborer at Hawaii Brewing Corporation, Ltd., Honolulu, Oahu.

In September 1944, he was inducted into the Army at Honolulu, Oahu (Serial No. 30111213). He trained at Camp Fannin, Texas. He served with the 100th Infantry Battalion, 1st Battalion, Company C, in the continental United States and Italy. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pvt Robert I. Sakamoto was killed in action on April 18, 1945, near Casae, in Italy during the Po Valley Campaign, and is interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Honolulu, Hawaii.

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