

Pfc Michiru Sumida

March 10, 1917 - April 6, 1945



Michiru Sumida was born to Toraichi and Setsuyo Isono Sumida on March 10, 1917 in Santa Cruz County, California. Michiru Sumida was inducted into the army at the Presidio of Monterey, California on January 30, 1942. The Sumida family was evacuated to Poston Relocation Camp in Arizona in 1942. Records at NARA/AAD note that Michiru Sumida was a native of California and his residence at the time of induction was Columbia, Pennsylvania. Michiru was married to Eloise Self Sumida. Pfc Michiru Sumida was fighting with the famous Company C of 100th Infantry/442nd Regimental Combat Team as they were able to penetrate the Gothic Line – a line that the Fifth Army could not penetrate in 5 months of fighting. Pfc Michiru Sumida (ASN 39087879) was killed in action on April 6, 1945 near Strettoia, Mt. Cerreta. He died gallantly going to the aid of his wounded sergeant. Pfc Michiru Sumida was awarded the Silver Star; Purple Heart; and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Pfc Michiru Sumida was survived by his parents Mr. Toraichi and Setsuyo Isono Sumida, brothers; Takao, Takeo, Yukio and Kunio and sisters Tokie and Yuriko. Information from the Department of the Army indicates that Eloise Self Sumida, the widow of Michiru Sumida had since remarried and changed her name to Mrs. Tom Battista of Little Rock, Arkansas. Pfc Michiru Sumida was initially buried at Castelfiorentino Cemetery, plot 2E, row 82, Grave 4292 and returned to the United States for reburial in October 18, 1949. The father as next of kin requested that the body of his son be cremated and buried in Japan. Therefore, as the final resting place Pfc Michiru Sumida is buried in the family plot in Miyauchi, Hiroshima-Ken, Saiki Gun as certified by the Mayor of Miyauchi.

AWARDS, POSTHUMOUS, OF SILVER STAR

MICHIRU SUMIDA, 39087879, Private First Class, Infantry, Company C

100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, United States Army. *For gallantry in action, on 6 April 1945, in Italy. Private First Class SUMIDA's platoon was digging in on a hill occupied after two days of heated engagements. The hill was under direct enemy observations and subjected to sniper fire which wounded a sergeant. Private First Class SUMIDA, without regard for his own life, immediately dashed to the aid of his fellow soldier. Sniper's bullets trailed his course but he did not falter until he had reached the wounded man. As he bent to help his comrade, he was shot and killed by the enemy sniper. Private First Class SUMIDA's gallant heroism reflects credit on the traditions of the United*

States Army. Entered military service from Monterey, California. Next of kin: Mr. Bill Sumida (Brother), Poston, Arizona.

Census 1930 by Roger Eaton

WW II Enlistment Record – Roger Eaton

Citation – Copy National Archives – NJAHS National Japanese American Historical Society, San Francisco

Dept of Army Burial by Roger Eaton

Revised 10/16/06