Keichi Tanaka was born on June 14, 1919, in Waimanalo, Oahu. He was the son of Kikuzo and Shune (Jinde) Tanaka. He was educated at Kaahumanu School, Washington Intermediate School, McKinley High School, and Cannon’s School of Business in Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed as a stock clerk at Universal Motor Co., Ltd., in Honolulu, Oahu.

Tanaka (SN 30101957) was inducted into the Army at Schofield Barracks, Oahu on November 14, 1941. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu with the 298th Infantry Regiment.

He was later assigned to Company D, 100th Infantry Battalion for advance combat training at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, and Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

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

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

Pvt. Keichi Tanaka was killed in action at Monte Falciano and Montemarano, Italy, during the Salerno to Cassino Campaign on September 29, 1943.

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

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Russell K. Shoho