

Pvt Jerry Yasukichi Toma

March 17, 1918 - November 30, 1943



Jerry Yasukichi Toma was born in Hakalau, Hawaii on March 17, 1918. He was the son of Yasuhichiro and Mou (Tome) Toma. He was educated at Honokaa High and Elementary School, Hawaii, Manoa School, Washington Intermediate School, Oahu. Before entering the service, he was employed as a cement chemical strainer.

Toma (SN 30102260) was inducted into the Army in Honolulu in November, 1941. He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu with the 298th Infantry Regiment. He was later re-assigned to Company D, 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, 1 Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Distinguished Unit Badge, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African- Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal.

Pvt. Jerry Yasukichi Toma was killed in action near Capriati, Italy during the Salerno-Cassino Campaign on November 30, 1943.

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

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