Pfc Ichiro Tsukano

July 21, 1923 - October 22, 1944

Ichiro Tsukano was born in Pepeekeo, Hawaii on July 21, 1923. He was the son of Kiyukichi and Mume Tsukano. He was educated at Pepeekeo Elementary and Intermediate School and Hilo High School in Hawaii. Before entering the military, he was employed by The Pepeekeo Sugar Co., Hawaii, as a Laborer.

In March of 1943, he was inducted into the Army at Hilo, Hawaii (Serial number, 30103925). He trained at Schofield Barracks, Oahu and later at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 100th Infantry Battalion A Company, in Italy and France. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, 1 Bronze Oak-Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart, Distinguished Unit Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Pfc Ichiro Tsukano was killed in action near Biffontaine, France in the Battle of Bruyeres on October 22, 1944, and is interred in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Excerpts 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.