

PFC CHARLES R. REYNOLDS - (KIA)



410th, Company A

was born June 9, '23 in Torreon, Mexico, the son of an American dentist and wife practicing in Mexico until the revolution there caused them to return to El Paso, TX in 1929. He became an Eagle Scout at 16 and attended Cathedral High School where he was very active in many extra-curricula activities, including swimming and tennis teams, cheerleader, editor of the school newspaper, and president of the senior class. He began college at Texas School of Mines & Metallurgy, and later transferred to Texas A&M. As a junior, he enlisted in the Army Apr 30, '43. He reported to Camp Maxey, TX, May 8 for basic training and qualified for the ASTP program and entered Oklahoma University upon completion of basic on Sept 9. When ASTP was disbanded, he was assigned to Company A, 410th Inf Regt at Camp Howze, TX Mar 14, '44. Reynolds moved with the 103d to

Camp Shanks, NY POE which was loaded with two other divisions and sailed for Marseille, France on Oct 6, '44. Co A went on line in the Vosges Mountains just west of St Die on Nov 11. Charles was the BAR man for his squad, typically filled by a volunteer. By late January, after "Nordwind" had been contained, the 410th attacked into Schillersdorf so as to maintain a favorable defensive position pending regrouping and re-supply for continuing the attack into Germany. During the attack on Schillersdorf, Reynolds squad came under intense small arms fire and Charles Reynolds was killed Jan 25, '45. It is to be noted that Company A's casualties for that day were one of the largest single day casualty reported for any company of the division. (6 KIA, 23 WIA) The family was informed several decades later by one of Charles' squad members, who had also been hit by the same burst, that Charles had been hit in the head and died instantly. His remains were first interred at the American Cemetery at Epinal, however, after the war were returned to El Paso where he now lies with parents in Mt Carmel Cemetery. At the time, Charles was survived by three brothers, all in the service: Alex with the First Army in Germany, George in ASTP medical college, and Lt William recuperating from combat wounds in France at the William Beaumont General Hospital. Charles has 4 sisters, and sister Susan Eveler attended the dedication of the 103d Historic Monument in Gainesville. Charles Reynolds memory has been recognized at both Texas A&M and Oklahoma University by memorial dedications and his memory is also recognized in his hometown of El Paso by a suburban street named Charles Reynolds Lane.