

# PFC TAKEO KANEICHI

MARCH 2, 1919 - NOVEMBER 8, 1944

Takeo Kaneichi was born on March 2, 1919 to Kahei and Misao Kaneichi in Kerman, California. He attended Kerman Elementary and graduated from Central Union High. Kaneichi attended Armstrong Business College in Berkeley, CA. He went to Japanese school and enjoyed baseball and basketball. He was drafted into the Army on November 12, 1941. In 1942 the Kaneichi family was evacuated from Fresno and incarcerated at the Jerome Concentration Camp in Arkansas and then later interned at Rowher Internment Camp, Arkansas in June 1944.

He received his basic training at Fort Ord and further training at Camp Robinson, Arkansas in Company E 106 MRTC (Medical Training). Being stationed at Camp Robinson allowed Takeo to visit his family in Jerome. He later transferred to another camp to undergo infantry training and then joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team fighting in Europe.

The 100th/442nd found themselves in the Vosges forest in eastern France fighting for every yard as the Germans battled fiercely. Kaneichi was seriously wounded and died of his wounds on November 8th, 1944.

Kaneichi was awarded the Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, American and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medals and the World War II Victory Medals.

At the time, he was survived by his brother Yoshio and sisters; Shizuko Kaneichi Nagamura, Suzuko Ruth Kaneichi Itogawa, Chiyoko Kaneichi (who passed away at the age of 13) and Helen Kaneichi Shirakawa. As of 2016, only Shirakawa is still living.

Funeral services were conducted in internment camp in November 1944 and final rites were held at the Fresno Buddhist Church when the remains were brought back in January 1949. Fellow soldiers from Biola, Nob Miyamoto, Merit Kodama, Art Kawamoto, Yutaka Kobori, Nariyoshi Yamanaka, Jim Arakaki, Roy Uyeno, Narihiko Yamanaka, John Arakaki, and Tak Morita served as pallbearers.

Pfc Takeo Kaneichi is buried in the family plot at Mountain View Cemetery in Fresno, CA.

May God bless Takeo Kaneichi.

