

Sgt Harry Thomas Messerly, died of wounds, France.

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Rank *Sgt.* Name *Harry Thomas Messerly*  
First name Middle name Last Name

Serial Number *35228520* Branch of Service *Infantry man*

Date of birth *May 23, 1925* Place of birth *Zanesville Ohio*

Date of enlistment or induction (state which) *Sept. 30, 1943* Induction

Important battles *Serving on front lines on Geis Beechhead*

Decorations *Godfrault Infantry Combat Medal Purple Heart*

Date of death *Sept 25, 1944* Place of death *St. Juan in France*

Cause or manner of death *Died of Gunshot wounds.*

Special duties or qualifications *Sgt. of Co B. of 180th Inf POW*

Length of foreign service *6 mos. 9 wks* Buried U.S. Mil Cem. *St. Jan, France*

How long was he a resident of Muskingum Co. *19 years*

Letter 7/31/45 mother said: with famous 45th Thunder bird div. shot about noon while leading his men into combat by a German sniper near Epnial, France; died same day.



What school and college diplomas did he hold?.....

Zanesville Public & Lash High Graduate

Occupation in civilian life .....

If married, name and address of wife.....

no

Names and ages of children .....

no

Other important biographical information

Saw much action in European Theater

for heroic achievement against enemy forces. Pres. Citation: Was promoted on the March to Rome Recd medals for expert gunner and brilliant service

Name and address of relative who supplied above information .....

Mrs Mrs George J. Messerly

Zanesville telephone No. ....

1784 W

1032 Chester St.

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Zanesville, Ohio.

July 31, 1945.

Norris F. Schneider. -

Dear Sir. - In regards the information already given you about Sgt. Harry T. Messerly we just recently received a few further details and if there is anything of interest that may be added to what is already furnished.

From his Chaplain he stated that he was with the Famous 45<sup>th</sup> Thunderbird Division, and was shot about noon on Sept 25, 1944 while leading his men into combat by a German Sniper was in the vicinity of Epnial, France near Longchamp. Died the same day and was buried in a beautiful United States Military Cemetery at St. Juan in France, Plot 6. Row 9. Grave 387. with full military services of his Faith with his closest buddies paying final respects for one whom they had fought bravely with.

We as the parents appreciate the  
very fine thing that you are trying  
to get across.

Thanking you for the interest shown.

Very Sincerely Yours.

George & Gladys Messerly.

1032 Chestnut St.

Zanesville

Ohio.