



Personal info

Full name

HEINLEIN, Crayton Mcgee

Date of birth

29 June 1914

Age

30

Place of birth

Illinois

Hometown

Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois

Military service

Service number

36784603

Rank

Private First Class

Unit

**H Company,
2nd Battalion,
39th Infantry Regiment,
9th Infantry Division**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

18 March 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Henri-Chapelle

Plot	Row	Grave
C	2	33

Immediate family

Members

Crayton M. Heinlein (father)

Lena (Morrison) Heinlein (mother)

William M. Heinlein (brother)

Virginia L. Heinlein (sister)

Irma D. Heinlein (wife)

Larry M. Heinlein (son)

Linda R. Heinlein (daughter)

Rebecca L. Rohn (granddaughter)

Crayton S. Smith (grandson)

Jennifer L. van Buren (granddaughter)

Kenneth A. Kirschner (grandson)

Edward A. Kirschner (grandson)

More information

Crayton M. Heinlein attended Eastern Illinois State Teachers College High School, graduating in 1932 He attended college at EISTC from 1932 to 1934 and then worked as a Railway Express agent in Anderson, Indiana and Mattoon, Illinois.

Crayton M. Heinlein enlisted on 5 January 1944 and landed in Europe on D-Day +3. During the winter of 1944-45, one of the coldest on record in Europe, he lost part of both feet to frostbite but refused medical evacuation. For this wound he was awarded the Purple Heart a first time. After he had recovered, he rejoined his unit, where during a short sharp firefight, he was credited with saving the life of his best friend. He was killed shortly thereafter by several shrapnel fragments.

Photos



Source of information: FOHF, www.findagrave.com, www.ancestry.com - 1930 Census

Photo source: Ralph Peeters, Jenny van Buren, www.newspapers.com - The Pittsburgh Press