



Personal info

Full name

ABERCROMBIE, Alex Miller

Date of birth

7 May 1921

Age

23

Place of birth

Kilsyth, Scotland

Hometown

Revloc, Cambria County, Pennsylvania

Military service

Service number

33252550

Rank

Technician Fifth Grade

Unit

**A Company,
1st Battalion,
506th Parachute Infantry Regiment,
101st Airborne Division**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

18 April 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
D	18	15

Immediate family

Members

John L. Abercrombie (father)
Elizabeth (Miller) Abercrombie (mother)
Robert Abercrombie (brother)
Elizabeth Abercrombie (sister)
Mary Abercrombie (sister)
Kathryn Abercrombie (sister)

More information

Alex M. Abercrombie attended high school for one year and was a filling station attendant.

He enlisted in Altoona, Pennsylvania on 9 September 1942.

On 12 April A Company was on the left bank of the Rhine. At a briefing, the company was ordered to send a patrol to the village of Himmelgeist, on the other bank of the river, shortly after nightfall. Four men of A Company were killed by shell fire during this patrol, including T/5 Abercrombie. Because the company had to retreat across the river, they had to leave their dead behind.

A few days later, a number of volunteers undertook another patrol in broad daylight to repatriate the bodies of their fallen comrades. They found that German citizens had buried all four of them in a common grave with the inscription: 'Hier ruhen 4 Amerik. Soldaten gef. 13.4.1945'; which indicated that they had been buried a day after their death. The four bodies were exhumed and evacuated to the other bank.

Note: The official date of death for T/5 Abercrombie is 18 April, but all sources indicate that he died in the action described above.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, www.ww2-airborne.us, www.wwiimemorial.com,
www.archives.gov, www.ancestry.com - Headstone and Interment Record / Veteran Compensation Application File, Beyond the Rine - A Screaming Eagle in Germany - Donald R. Burgett

Photo source: Nico Leers, www.findagrave.com - Tx Oma