

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

SYER, Charles Angus "Charley"

Date of birth

8 April 1924

Age

21

Place of birth

Brantford, Ontario, Canada

Hometown

Wayne County, Michigan

Military service

Service number

16109115

Rank

Private First Class

Unit

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

Awards

Purple Heart with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

12 April 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

| Plot | Row | Grave |
|------|-----|-------|
| N | 15 | 13 |

Immediate family

Members

Mossom C. Syer (father)

Iva G. (Miller) Syer (mother)

Jack L. Syer (brother)

Roy T. Syer (brother)

Jane Syer (sister)

Grace Syer (sister)

More information

Charles Syer was a sales clerk.

He volunteered for the Army of the United States in Detroit, Michigan on 17 August 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 Pfc Syer. 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.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, www.ww2-airborne.us, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov, www.ancestry.com - Family Tree, Beyond the Rine - A Screaming Eagle in Germany - Donald R. Burgett

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Marc van den Berkmortel / <http://eagles101st.wordpress.com>, www.findagrave.com - Historian