



Personal info

Full name

VAN DUSEN, William David

Date of birth

4 October 1922

Age

22

Place of birth

Burlington, Kane County, Illinois

Hometown

Burlington, Kane County, Illinois

Military service

Service number

36612215

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**F Company,
2nd Battalion,
376th Infantry Regiment,
94th Infantry Division**

Awards

**Bronze Star,
Purple Heart**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

10 February 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Lorraine

Plot	Row	Grave
A	12	60

Immediate family

Members

William Van Dusen (father)

Stella Van Dusen (mother)

Edith Van Dusen (sister)

Ruth (Spriet) Van Dusen (wife)

More information

S/Sgt William D. Van Dusen attended the Burlington schools and was employed by the Mordern Steel Company of Geneva before he enlisted on 7 December 1942 and sent overseas July 1944.

His platoon was ordered to lead a patrol into the Bannholz Woods. After gaining some ground in the woods the Germans counterattacked with tanks and infantry. The Americans were nearly surrounded and Van Dusen was ordered to lead his platoon forward in the hope of gaining a breakthrough. As he arose and started forward he was hit above the right eye. Fire from the enemy was so fierce that hospital corpsmen were unable to reach him. He attempted to administer his own first aid but in raising up slightly to reach his first aid pouch enemy bullets crashed into him twice more. In the battle in which he was killed out of 300 Americans who went in only 100 came out.

He is remembered at the Burlington Union Cemetery in Burlington, Kane County, Illinois.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, www.abmc.gov, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.ancestry.com - Headstone and Interment Record / 1930 Census, <http://www.94thinfdiv.com>, www.newspapers.com - The Daily Chronicle - 26 October 1945, www.findagrave.com - Melanie Howe

Photo source: www.findagrave.com - Denise Kellam / Melanie Howe