

## PFC JOSEPH G. CARDOZA- (KIA)



410<sup>th</sup>, C-Company

was born Jan 9, 1921 in Pleasanton, CA and raised on a large ranch with four brothers and six sisters helping their family farming and raising cattle. Brother Daniel was drafted in the Army in Oct 1941, and Joseph followed in 1942, and sent to the Aleutian Islands in Alaska prior to the Japanese invasion on June 3, 1942. Brother John was drafted in the Navy in 1943, and about the same time, Joseph was sent back to Fort Lewis, WA for infantry training, then sent to the 103d Inf Div in mid-1944 at Camp Howze, TX, and assigned to Co C 410th Inf Regt. The Division was deployed from Camp Howze to Europe in September, arriving in Marseille, France in October, and on-line in the Vosges Mountains of Eastern France in early Nov. 1944. On Jan 18, 1945 Joseph was wounded (slightly)

and returned to his company upon recovery. On Feb 27, his platoon was on a night raid into Neiffern, just north of Pfaffenhoffen in Alsace, when Joseph was killed. This incursion as a probe into the enemy's defenses was costly, as it resulted in seven men killed-in-action and five wounded (WIA). The additional six killed were: Charles P. Bauer, Joseph D. Christopherson, John F. Foley, John F. Kenney, Manual T. Lugo, and Leonard M. Momsen. Pfc Joseph G. Cardoza was initially interred in the Epinal American Cemetery in France until 1948 when his body was returned to the United States and interred in the family plot in Pleasanton, CA.