

## PVT HOWARD I. SCHWENDEN - (KIA)

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



PVT Schwenden was born Oct 15, 1925 to Carl and Blanche Schwenden of Alhambra, CA and he grew up there. He was drafted directly out of high school and according to family members, Howard was very mechanically inclined.

“He built a desk in woodworking class that is still being used today,” said Eleanor Perry of Sunnvale, CA, Schwenden’s sister. On Jan 14, 1944, Schwenden was inducted into the Army and following basic training at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, Schwenden reported for duty with Co I 410th Inf Regt 103rd Division at Camp Howze, TX on Sept 1, 1944. On the afternoon of Nov 29, 1944, Private Schwenden, a member of 3rd Platoon, Co I was advancing to the east outside the town of Hohwarth, France. Third Platoon was in the lead as the company followed a narrow cart path through the surrounding

forest. Suddenly, German artillery rounds struck the head of the column. The men quickly moved off the cart path into the woods. The exploding rounds sent shrapnel tearing through the trees where the men sought cover. On Nov 29, 1944 Private Howard I. Schwenden was struck and killed by artillery fire. Pvt. Schwenden lies at rest in the American Cemetery at Epinal, France.