

**PERHAPS THE LAST MEDAL AWARDED FOR 'EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM'  
IN WORLD WAR II MIGHT BE POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED TO SOLDIER  
WHO SERVED AND DIED WITH THE 103RD INFANTRY DIVISION**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONFUSION AT END OF WAR**

**TWO U.S. REPRESENTATIVES PLEDGE SUPPORT**

Washington, D.C., July, 1998--Application for the awarding of the Soldier's Medal to PFC Gene Wise, of Company I, 410th Infantry, 103rd Division has been sponsored by two U. S. Representatives, Congressman Jim Leach, (R-Iowa) and Congresswoman Pat Danner, (D-Missouri).

The proposed citation reads as follows: Private First Class Gene Wise, 37531848, Company "I", 410th Infantry Regiment, 103rd Infantry Division, For Extraordinary Heroism in action, not involving conflict with the retreating German Army.

On 10 December 1944, the 1st Platoon of Company "I" was assigned to get some rest in a storage room of a large building next to the railroad track in Neubourg, France. About thirty members of the 1st Platoon were in the room.

At approximately 1745, Private Wise was heard to scream, "Grenade!", and every soldier flattened out on the gravel floor of the building. A tremendous explosion occurred.

Realizing the danger that the accidental removal of the safety pin, while removing a hand grenade from his lapel, posed to his fellow soldiers, Private Wise had made the instantaneous decision, after shouting out a warning, to fall on the grenade himself. He was killed.

His undaunted courage saved the lives of many members of the 1st platoon and possibly the wounding of all present in such a confined space.



Mr. Robert D. Quinn  
23903 Hedgewood Ave.  
Westlake, OH 44145

24



## EN MÉMOIRE

Libération de UHRWILLER 15 Mars 1945

Francis M. Passaro

Hale R. Burnham

Libération d'ALSACE 1944-1945

Theodore S. Ciezki

Charles W. Heard

Francis B. Postupak

Howard I. Schwenden

Carl Minnear

Romolda Natt

Robert B. Higbee

Richard B. Lloyd

Raymond Voss

Gene Wise



Co. I, 410th Inf., Division 103