Robertson, Earl Charles

Sgt. Earl C. Robertson Is Killed On Saipan

WINCHESTER, Ky. (Special)—Sgt. Earl C. Robertson, 24, of the U. S. Marine Corps, was killed in action on Saipan island, according to a War Department message received here by his mother, Mrs. J. W. Robertson, 44 Buckner street. The date of his death was not stated in the communication.

Sergeant Robertson enlisted after his graduation from Winchester high school in 1939. He had seen action in the Pacific theater of war during the past four years. He received his training at San Diego, Calif., after which he participated in fighting at Wake Island, and in the conquest of the Marshalls, Solomons and Marianas. At one time he was stationed in New Zealand.

A recent Associated Press dispatch stated that Sergeant Robertson was serving in a "tough Marine mortar unit" credited with knocking out 10 Japs in a fierce hand-to-hand skirmish on Saipan.

Sergeant Robertson's death brings to 26 the number of fatalities from Clark county during World War II.

Besides his mother, Sergeant Robertson is survived by a brother, Opra Robertson, Newport News, Va., and two half-sisters, Mrs. Elsie Guynn and Mrs. Ensign, Huntington, W. Va.

Lexington Herald-Leader
25 Jul 1944, Tue · Page 2

WORLD WAR II DECEASED — ORIGINAL

APPLICATION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER
(Please make out and return in duplicate)

FLAT GRANITE

CHECK TYPE REQUIRED (See Instructions attached)
- ☐ UPRIGHT MARBLE HEADSTONE
- ☐ FLAT MARBLE MARKER
- ☑ FLAT GRANITE MARKER
- ☐ BRONZE MARKER (NOTE RESTRICTIONS)

ENLISTMENT DATE:
DISCHARGE DATE:
SERIAL No.: 296226
PENSION No.:
EMBLEM (Check one): ☑ CHRISTIAN ☐ HEBREW ☐ NONE

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial): Robertson, Earl Charles
STATE: Ky.
RANK: Sgt
COMPANY: H
U. S. REGIMENT, STATE ORGANIZATION, AND DIVISION: 3 Bn, 8 mar, 2 mar Div USMC

DATE OF BIRTH (Month, Day, Year): 2/8/21
DATE OF DEATH (Month, Day, Year): 6/21/44

NAME OF CEMETERY: Bluegrass
LOCATION (City and State): Salyersville. Kentucky

SHIP TO (I CERTIFY THE APPLICANT FOR THIS STONE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ME TO TRANSPORT THE STONE FROM THE FREIGHT STATION TO THE CEMETERY)
(SIGNATURE OF CONSIGNEE)

NEAREST FREIGHT STATION (City and State): ~~Royl ton~~, Kentucky. Royalton
POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE: Salyersville, Kentucky

DO NOT WRITE HERE
FOR VERIFICATION: JUL 30 1948
ORDERED: W. Chelmsford, Mass. 21 SEP 1948
B/L: 3863891
SHIPPED

I certify this application is submitted for a stone for the unmarked grave of a veteran.
I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for the removal of the stone promptly upon arrival at destination, and properly place it at the decedent's grave at my expense.

W. O. Robertson — APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE
7/24/48 — DATE OF APPLICATION
ADDRESS (Street, City, State): Salyersville, Kentucky.

OQMG FORM REV 15 APR 47 623 — IMPORTANT—Complete Reverse Side — 16—11453-6 GPO



Photo added by Stacey Blanton

Add Photos

Request Photo



Added by Jeff Hall

Sgt Earl C Robertson

BIRTH 8 Feb 1921

DEATH 21 Jun 1944 (aged 23)
Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands

BURIAL Blue Grass Cemetery
Salyersville, Magoffin County, Kentucky, USA *Add to Map*

MEMORIAL ID 144888587 · View Source

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MEMORIAL | PHOTOS 2 | FLOWERS 0

Killed in Action WW2
Saipan

See mo
memor

- Blue

From: https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/144888587/earl-c-robertson

Winchester Marine In Tough Mortar Unit That Knocked Out 10 Japs In Saipan Fight

SAIPAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS (Delayed) July 8 (AP)—A Kentuckian was with a tough marine mortar unit on this island when it knocked out 10 Japs in a fierce hand-to-hand skirmish at midnight.

He was Sgt. Earl C. Robertson, 44 Buckner street, Winchester, Ky., and his group, commanded by Capt. Joseph Zielinski Pennsylvania, came through the fight without a casualty. They used knives, carbines, pistols, rifles, fists, and feet for their tools of war.

It was the marines' third night on Saipan, windy and rainy. They were dug in 1,000 yards behind the front lines.

While Sgt. Robertson slept the Japs began to pass. Robertson awoke and saw them moving toward the front lines. He thought they were marines.

A moment later one of them slipped and stepped on the foot of a marine nearby. The fellow muttered "take it easy, mate." and then Robertson reported, "all hell broke loose."

"The Japs began screaming, yelling 'banzai,' shooting, and running in all directions at once," he said.

The Jap leader stood back by a tree and shouted orders to his men. Robertson shot him with a car-

(Continued on page 2.)

Winchester Marine In Tough Mortar Unit

(Continued from page 1)

bine.

"He stopped jabbering after I shot him," Robertson said.

The next morning at daybreak marines found the bodies of nine Japs and one badly-wounded man lying among the trees of their quiet little grove.

The Winchester Sun
08 Jul 1944, Sat · Page 1 &2

Funeral Rites For Sgt. Earl Robertson Planned Thursday

Funeral services for Sgt. Earl Robertson, 23, killed in action June 21, 1944, on Saipan, will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Etta Spink Robertson, 135 Georgia street. Military services will be held at the Salyersville cemetary. Sgt. Robertson was a native of Clark county. He was a son of Mrs. Robertson and the late J. P. Robertson.

In addition to his mother, survivors include a brother, W. O. Robertson, Salyersville; two half sisters, Mrs. E. E. Guinn and Mrs. S. T. Ensign, both of Huntington, W. Va., and four nephews.

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