



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2416

June 2, 2019

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

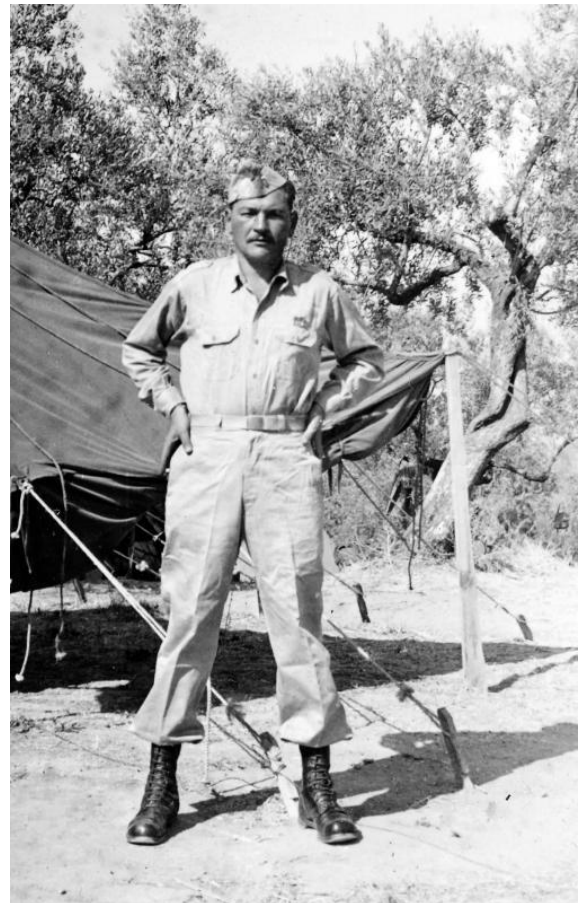
Capt. Joseph Broudy, A Company



Bruce Broudy just sent me a page of notes about his Dad, **Captain Joe Broudy** of A company. I just added this to our [Meet the Troopers](#) page.

[Joe Broudy, A Company](#)

from Dr. Bruce Broudy and on behalf of my brother Ron Broudy and sister Eileen Shaw





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Here is the text from the new Joe Broudy bio page:

Joseph Broudy was born on November 26, 1914 in Atlanta, Ga. to parents Ben Broudy and Ida (Mosvitz) Broudy. His parents were immigrants from Bessarabia, then a part of Romania. We believe they were fleeing from anti-Semitic programs. Joe graduated from Tech High School in 1933 with a letter in basketball. He served in the National guard from 1930 to 1933. He managed a factory producing ladies' and children's apparel.

In Nov. 1941 Joe joined the Army; the 50th infantry, 6th Armored Division. He rose to the rank of technical sergeant. In Aug. 1942 he attended officer candidate school and became 2nd Lt. in the 87th Reconnaissance, 7th Armored Division. He went to Parachute School in Feb. 1943 because it paid an extra \$50 per month. He joined the 517th PRCT as 1st Lt. and became Captain of A Co. in France in Sept. 1944 when **Don Fraser** was promoted to Major. Joe was awarded the Bronze Star while fighting in the Bulge along the Soy-Hotton line on Christmas day. He received the Purple Heart with 2 oak leaf clusters.

Captain Joseph Broudy, 01 013 873, 517th Parachute Infantry, United States Army, for heroic achievement in action. On 25 December 1944, the First Battalion, 517th Parachute Infantry, was ordered to attack high ground near Soy, Belgium. As the attack progressed and contact was made the battalion was subjected to intense enemy artillery fire, one round landing about six feet from Captain Broudy, shaking him up considerably and, as examination proved later, breaking his ear drum. Though shaken thoroughly and in great pain, Captain Broudy refused to be evacuated, and, even after the company had made a successful attack and secured its objective, all suggestions that he return to the rear were flatly refused. Captain Broudy then moved through his company lines, reconnoitering the ground 200 to 300 yards to his front and guided each of his platoons into position as they displaced forward. The personal supervision of Captain Broudy in picking these positions, despite the handicap of his injury, was a prime factor in the small amount of casualties suffered in a counterattack the following morning. Entered the military service from Atlanta, Georgia.

- 3 -

Our Dad virtually never spoke about WWII and he died in 1981 long before we were aware of the history of the 517th. He and our mother Trudy did attend reunions in San Diego and Fort Bragg. Trudy and her sister used to sing at USO events and it is our understanding that is how they met after the war.

Our mother received letters from some of Joe's comrades after his death. **Ralph Harmon** wrote that Joe "was a square shooter and liked by all of A Co." **Bill Price** made a trip to NYC with Joe before going overseas and said he had "never seen one man that knew so many people. Just walking down Broadway and he would meet people he knew." **Phil DiStanislaio** wrote that Joe "represented authority with a sense of humor, fairness, and a keen awareness of the ridiculous." He also wrote that Joe (being an older soldier) "contributed to that growing up period to all of us whose eyes had not focused yet on that difference between callow youth and manhood."



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A few photos from [Joe Broudy's photo page](#):



"Me, Bill, De, Whitey"



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Other MailCall News

While I was working on the page for **Joe Broudy**, I ran across this quick story about **Bill Boyle** and Joe in the book *Battling Buzzards* by Gerald Astor (1993).

Bill Boyle continued to awe associates with his coolness under fire. While Company A manned positions along the trail by the ravine behind Ridge X, the 1st Battalion chief arrived during a quiet moment. Capt. **Joe Broudy**, A Company's CO, challenged Boyle to a game of cribbage. Kibitzer **Don Fraser** recalls, "After Broudy won a few games, Boyle was ahead in the third contest. Then German mortars came over the ridge and exploded in the ravine. Broudy dove for cover in his command post. Boyle stood up and ordered him to come back and finish the game."

Hello Bob

I'm looking for information about a paratrooper. His name **Frank Summerson**, he was in the 460 PFAB A Battery

Picture of him , the history of the man during WWII if you have something and If you could help me it will be a great day

Regards Christian
<cbagourd@wanadoo.fr>

Envoyé de mon iPad

Hello Christian,

So far, all I can find is that Franklin B Summerson was with Battery A of the 460th PFAB.
http://517prct.org/documents/xmas1944/xmas_1944_battery_a.jpg

On our roster from around 2008, he lived in Marion, Ohio.

I did find a short obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/marionstar/obituary.aspx?pid=149014580>

Franklin was born on November 27, 1918 and passed away on Sunday, February 27, 2011.

Sorry, but I cannot find any photos.

Bob Barrett



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Obituary from <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/marionstar/obituary.aspx?pid=149014580>

Franklin B. Summerson

Frank Summerson, 92, of Marion, Ohio died Sunday, February 27, 2011 at Primrose of Marion.

He was born November 27, 1918 in Renovo, PA, to the late Hiram and Helen (Crays) Summerson. He was a 1936 graduate of Renovo High School and attended Biarritz University in France; Syracuse University and The Ohio State University. Frank served with the US Army during WW II in the Battle of the Bulge. He was the recipient of a Purple Heart, five Bronze Stars and an Invasion Arrowhead.

He married Mary Anna Kaupp in Mt. Vernon, Ohio June 15, 1957. They renewed their wedding vows on their 25th anniversary in St. Mary's Church in Marion and she survives him. He is also survived by a step-son, Joseph Bauer and his wife, Siri of Arlington, Virginia; and two grandchildren, Eric Bauer and Lisa Bauer.

In addition to his parents; he is preceded in death by a sister, Ruth.

Frank was an accounting supervisor with GTE in Marion, retired in 1983 and for enjoyment, he played golf at Hickory Grove Golf Club in Harpster, where he was a member.

Administrivia

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- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn't. If I miss something, please just send it again.

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"I'm depending on you old men to be a steadying influence for the replacements."