

Joseph Stanley Jeglinski

U.S. Army

30th Division, 117th—Company K



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My Grandpa, Corporal Joseph Stanley Jeglinski was born in Rome, New York, but lived most of his life in Chicago near Midway Airport. He was drafted into the United States Army on April 4th 1944 at Fort Sheridan, located in Highland Park, Illinois. Joseph was sent to Camp Fannin for basic training for 4 and 1/2 months (he trained with the 63rd Infantry, Company B). Camp Fannin is a place where more than 200,000 young American Men became Army Infantry Replacements and is located in Tyler, Texas. After basic training, Joseph was shipped overseas to the European Theatre of Operations on September 20th, 1944 and arrived on September 26th, 1944. Upon arrival, he was placed with the 117th Infantry, Company K, 30th Division (Old Hickory) also known as the Workhorse of the Western Frontier. The 30th Division was well known by the Nazis as they wiped out most of Hitler's SS Divi-

sions. He served in two of the biggest battles in World War II—Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge) and Rhineland. During the Battle of the Bulge, Corporal Jeglinski and another soldier were in the process of capturing an American soldier, but were then captured by the Germans and imprisoned for 30 days. During his time as a Prisoner of War, he ate weeds and roots to stay alive and spent most of his time in a railcar. While Serving in the European Theatre of Operations, Joseph loaded, aimed and fired his gun (M1 Garand) at enemy personnel for fire power support in gaining territory. He received several medals including: Bronze Star, WWII Victory Medal, Good Conduct Ribbon, American Theatre Ribbon, EAME Theatre Ribbon with 2 Bronze Stars and Prisoner of War Medal. His military occupation was Rifleman, 745 and wore his Combat Infantry Badge with Pride. Joseph departed Europe on May 6th, 1945 and arrived in the United States of America on May 19th, 1945. He was separated/honorably discharged from the United States Army on December 3rd, 1945 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. My Grandpa is my Hero!

Dave Jeglinski

(Proud Grandson of Joseph Jeglinski)