

Charles Rex Ketchum

U.S. Marines



Charles Rex Ketchum
U.S. Marine Corps WWII

C. Rex Ketchum joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1940 at Springfield, IL. and served seven years during the WW11 years. He was born 30 June, 1917 in Taylorville, IL to Charles Roy and Malinda Durbin Ketchum. Rex attended St. Joseph School and Cathedral Boys High School in Springfield, IL before entering service.

Rex received basic training at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was assigned to the Fifth Marine Division, B Company, Combat Engineers. He served in the Pacific Theater on the islands of Saipan, Guadalcanal, and Tarawa. He returned to Camp Lejeune, N.C. and married Louise Smith of Taylorville, IL on 29 Dec. 1944. He was honorably discharged in 1947 and returned to Springfield, IL.

Rex worked as an engineer for the Chicago Midland Railroad for more than 30 years, retiring in 1979. He died on 22 October, 1997 at the Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy, IL. He was 80 years old.

His wife Louise, his parents and one brother, John Merle preceded him in death. Surviving are two sons, Thomas J. and Robert J. Ketchum, a brother Leo Edward Ketchum and a sister Mary Ketchum Champion. Rex was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Funeral services were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Taylorville, IL and burial in Oak Hill Cemetery in Taylorville.

Charles Rex Ketchum