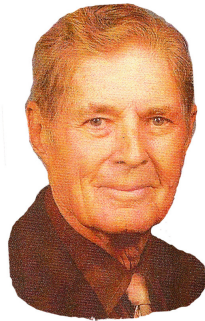


Kenneth R. Morgan
M Co 382nd

Kenneth Riley Morgan was born in 1924 in Grady, Oklahoma and went into the Army in August of 1943, and was assigned to the 96th Deadeye Division. He trained on the west coast and Hawaii. He went into combat as an infantryman in an 81mm mortar platoon when US forces landed on Leyte in October of 1944. He served with this unit until Leyte was secured and landed on Okinawa in April of 1945. After the island was secure, his unit shipped to Mindoro, Philippine Islands and he remained with the division until they returned to the States in January of 1946, being mustered out the following February.

He earned numerous awards for his combat service for his country; the Combat Infantry Badge, two battle stars; a Bronze Star with Arrowhead, Good Conduct, and Philippine Liberation medals, and with the Division he was awarded the prestigious Presidential Unit Citation.

He married Jolene Cryer in 1959, and they were members of the Eastside Church of Christ in Duncan for many years. He had two children and she had one, and together they had several descendants. He was employed by the Halliburton Corporation in Duncan, as a shop foreman, and retired in 1959.



Smiling and friendly



Jolene and Kenneth's
50th Anniversary Picture

Kenny was a friendly man who loved kids and his extended family. He had several close Army buddies, attended several Deadeye reunions, and was well respected in his community.

But Ken suffered terrible flashbacks from the war for years. One night on Leyte in 1944 a Japanese soldier attacked Ken when was in his foxhole, and to defend himself; Ken killed him. That memory ravished his sleep and psychological help was ineffective.



Kenneth is at the top left corner, with his 81mm mortar squad on Okinawa '45



Kenneth and a buddy on left on Mindoro '45

So when Kenneth passed away in 2009 he was finally without pain and at peace. We can warmly remember him for who he was as a person, as a Christian, how well he lived his life as a father, husband, grandfather, uncle, shop foreman, and combat soldier in the US Army.

Respectfully, his service was honored with a military ceremony.