

William R. Shockley



Medal of Honor Recipient

SHOCKLEY, WILLIAM R.

Private First Class
United States Army
Company L
128th Infantry
32 Infantry Division

Entered service at Selma, California
Born 4 December 1918

Place: Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, Philippine Island
Date: 19 October 1945

Citation:

He was in position with his unit on a hill when the enemy, after a concentration of artillery fire, launched a counterattack. He maintained his position under intense enemy fire and urged his comrades to withdraw, saying that he would "remain to the end" to provide cover. Although he had to clear two stoppages which impeded the reloading of his weapon, he halted one enemy charge. Hostile troops then began moving in on his left flank, and he quickly

Citation:
(continued)

Shifted his gun to fire on them. Knowing that the only route of escape was being cut off by the enemy, he ordered the remainder of his squad to withdraw to safety and deliberately remained at his post. He continued to fire until he was killed during the ensuing enemy charge. Later, 4 Japanese were found dead in front of his position. Pfc. Shockley, facing certain death, sacrificed himself to save his fellow soldiers, but the heroism and gallantry displayed by him enabled his squad to reorganize and continue its attack.

United States Marine Corps
Medal of Honor


