

Ralph Alton, Deadeye
M. Co, 382nd Regiment
US Army



Ralph Alton hailed from Bruceville, Indiana

He was drafted into the Army and took his basic training in Camp Blanding, Florida. After returning home he received advance training at Ft Ord, California, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, and Saipan.

He joined the 96th Division Deadeyes in April of 1945 on Okinawa, as an 18 year old.

He served his country with M. Co, 382nd regiment until American forces secured that island. He was then shipped to Mindoro, Philippine Islands, where he reenlisted. Upon the death of his father he was discharged in early 1946.

He received the Bronze Star, Pacific Theatre Operations Medal with one Battle Star, and the most prestigious award; the Combat Infantry Badge, and with the division; the highest award a unit can receive; The Presidential Unit Citation.

Alton was employed in the Steel Industry in Gary, Indiana as a shop foreman, and retired with a full pension with 25 years of service. He spent his final years in Gadsden, Alabama with his wife Christine.