

Medal of Honor #2

Audie Murphy

Audie Murphy was the most decorated infantry man during WWII. Over 25 medals from the US and French governments for his bravery during the Italian and French campaigns. As a scout he was constantly in harm's way, taking on superior forces, usually alone or with a few men. He consistently defended his men and stood his ground in encounter after encounter. Wounded 3 times seriously and many times less so, he persisted until finally ordered out. His medal of honor was for the entirety of his campaign. After the war, he returned to begin a well-known acting career as a movie star. What is not known is the damage the war did to his psyche and body. He suffered depression and insomnia the rest of his life, dealing with what is now known as PTSD. He wrote poems to ease his pain, of which only 3 still survive.

After Pearl, lied about age to enlist.

Great marksman, Casablanca was first site.

While scout for Sicilian Campaign dismissed
many enemy patrols in the fight.

Marched through the French campaigns leading his men.

Numerous scars inflicted before done.

Medals push him to Hollywood then.

Demeanor and face propel stardom run.

Depression, insomnia haunt his mind,

peace often difficult because of past.

Refuge in horses, poetry designed.

Life cut short after his private plane crashed.

One of legions who answered countries call

only to find survival has price after all.