

**CPL. LAWRENCE E. GARDINE**

Corporal Lawrence E. Gardine, son of John Franklin and Anna Everly Gardine, was born April 19, 1918.

His placid, uneventful childhood was spent on the farm with his brother and sisters; his education received in the Schuyler County schools. He was variously employed within the state and in Wichita, Kans., until his country called in April, 1942.

He received his military training at Camp Roberts, Calif., Camp Hoffman, N. C., and Ft. Benning, Ga. Prior to embarkation his outfit experienced six field maneuvers in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana and Texas. Cpl. Gardine went overseas in April, 1943 with the 505th Parachute Infantry, which was assigned to the 82nd "All American" Airborne division.

He first saw action in the vicinity of Tunisia and Bizerte, in North Africa. During this campaign he suffered a burned hand, but recovered to join his outfit in the invasion of Sicily and Italy. Thereafter he spent some time in a London hospital where he was treated for battle shock and fatigue. His fitness regained, he received training in invasion tactics in England. He was killed in action "D Day," June 6, somewhere in France.

His body was interred in a temporary military cemetery, St. Mere Eglise, in France, returned to New York on the U. S. Army Transport Greenville Victory and arrived in Lancaster July 16, 1948, escorted by Sgt. Morris Ritter.

His personality and influence on those who knew him well is summarized in the following paragraphs from a letter written by his commanding officer, Brig. General James M. Gavin, of the 82nd Airborne division.

"Cpl. Gardine, a veteran of Africa, Sicily and Italy, was an excellent non-commissioned officer. He possessed extreme leadership ability, and his courage in combat served as an inspiration for the men who served under him. He was well liked by all who knew him, both officers and men. Putting aside family ties, the admiration, respect and affection of comrades are a soldier's most priceless possessions, because collectively these comrades are un-failing judges. These possessions I believe Cpl. Gardine had earned in full measure."

"Soldier, Rest! thy warfare o'er  
Dream of fighting fields no more;  
Sleep the sleep that knows not  
breaking,  
Morn of toil or night of waking."

Funeral services were held July 16, 1948 at 3 p. m., at the Germania cemetery for Cpl. Lawrence E. Gardine, killed in the Allied Invasion of France in June, 1944. An American flag which graced Cpl. Gardine's coffin was presented to his father, John Gardine, at the conclusion of the military services.