

Details of Death Of Sgt. Gail Bilyeu



SGT. GAIL W. BILYEU

Following is a letter from the chaplain concerning the death of Sgt. Gail W. Bilyeu, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Bilyeu, R. 1, Tuscumbia, who was killed in action in Germany on April 3, 1945:

"Mr. John H. Bilyeu,
R. 1, Tuscumbia, Mo.

"Dear Mr. Bilyeu:

"Please accept our deepest sympathies in the recent death of your son, Sgt. Gail W. Bilyeu, 37628076, on April 3, 1945. He was killed in action in Germany. Here are some of the details concerning his death.

"Gail and his company were attacking a town in Germany. The enemy's forces seemed determined not to give way and retreat. There was considerable small arms fire and it was this that hit him. His suffering was not long for he died instantly.

"His body was taken to an American cemetery where he was buried with the honor due an American soldier. Over his grave stands a cross with information that will enable his grave to be identified. Accordingly, a chaplain of the United States Army officiated at the burial. His personal effects were turned over to proper authorities where they will be sent through channels to you.

"Mr. Bilyeu, your son is being missed very much in his company. In this hour of sorrow and darkness let me remind you of One who is the Light of the World and who carries our burdens for us. He is Jesus, my Savior. May His richest blessings be on you.

"Sincerely yours,

"Clarence E. Younce,
Chaplain, U. S. Army."

"Buried in a United States Military Cemetery at Butzbach, Germany. Grave No. 57, Row No. 3, Plot A."