

Washington Island Military Archives

## T/Sgt Edwin Lake Johnson

Born 10/17/1911  
Island

Died: 1981

Service # 36204133  
SS # 390-09-1349

Period of Service: WW II

: *Monument, JG, Am Legion  
Scrapbook – box 17*

Entered service 3/17/1941 Milwaukee  
Discharged 10/1/1945 Camp Gordon GA.

Served with HQ Co 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 4<sup>th</sup> Div.

Took basic training at Camp Walters TX.

He was in Camp Gordon Johnson, FL, Ft Jackson, SC, Camp Kilmore, NJ

He participated in battles in Northern France, Normandy, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe, including Omaha Beach 6/6/1944; Cherbourg 6/22/1944; Breakthrough (out of Normandy 7/25/1944); liberation at Paris 8/1944; Siegfried 9/1944; Hartgen Forest 12/1944; Luxembourg (The Bulge) 12/1944. Crossed the Rhine in March 1945, and at war's end was south of Munich.

He sailed from NY on British ship, arriving Liverpool 1/1944, and then on troop transport from Marseille 9/1945, arriving Norfolk, VA 9/20/1945.

His medals include Unit Badge with Bronze Service Arrowhead, the American Service medal, Good Conduct Clasp, European-African-Middle Eastern, and the Bronze Star.

His award of the Bronze Star noted, "Given for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy of the US on the Continental Peninsula, France from June 6, 1944 through July, 1944. Sgt Johnson displayed the highest possible degree of valor, efficiency, and devotion to duty with the achievement of maximum results in performing his assignment as battle casualty NCO for the battalion, with utter disregard for his life under the most dangerous battle conditions which often placed him in extreme jeopardy, aggressively pursued his assignment which resulted in the regiment staff being constantly aware of the fighting strength of the combat team, thus possessing a fully comprehensive knowledge of the regiment's potentialities in combat when the information was most needed. Sgt Johnson's devotion to duty, meritorious performance and courage which we considered a material factor in the success of the regiment during this period, reflect great credit upon himself and upon the service." Awarded by Major General r.O. Barton.

Brother of Percy and Rupert. May have moved to Los Angeles. (JG) His parents were Haldor Johnson and Magnina Gunnlaugsson.

His wife was Sunie Rhodes and they lived in Georgia for a year.