

# The Jackson Brothers In World War II

## By Edward Jackson- Company B, 48<sup>th</sup> Engineers

Five Jackson brothers served in World War II. Their names, starting with the eldest, are:  
James, David, Edward, Lester and Helmer.

James went into the service in September of 1944. His over sea's duty was with Company H of the 321<sup>st</sup> Division of the 8<sup>th</sup> Army stationed in Northern Japan. Later he served with 1190<sup>th</sup> Headquarters and Headquarters Company in Yokohama, Japan. James was a cook and retains an interest in cooking today.

David entered the service in March of 1942. His over sea's duty was with the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force in Liverpool, England. He worked in the supply depot.

I (Edward) entered the service in September of 1942. I was a truck driver with company B of the 48<sup>th</sup> Engineers. My over seas duty included a tour in North Africa for a short while, then I was in Italy with the 5<sup>th</sup> Army from October, 1943 until August of 1944. In August of 1944 the 48<sup>th</sup> Engineers joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Army in Southern France. From there we went to Belgium and Luxemburg. I was in South Germany at the end of the War.

Lester entered the service in early 1943. He served with the 739<sup>th</sup> tank battalion. He was with the 1<sup>st</sup> Army over seas and served in Holland, Northern Belgium and North Germany. Lester was injured in Madgesburg, Germany in April of 1945. He was in a hospital in Oklahoma for seven or eight months after his return to the United States.

Helmer entered the service in the spring of 1944. He served with Company L, 358<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 90<sup>th</sup> Division of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army over seas. He was killed on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1945, his first day of combat. He was killed near Dixon, Belgium and was the only fatality in Company L that day. He was only eighteen years old. He is buried in the American Cemetery and Memorial in Luxemburg City, Luxemburg.

I am thankful for the memories of most of the officers and men of Company B. I am especially grateful to Max Jonah for keeping up with the history and news of our group. A special thank you to A. L. Kincer, He and Captain Mardin were the first two officers I talked to when I joined the 48<sup>th</sup> Engineers in November of 1943 at Camp Gruber, Oklahoma. A. L. signed my driver's license. He was the Motor Officer and later became Company Commander. We became good friends. Thank you again A. L. for the memories.

One of my best memories occurred in June of 1945: I received a ten-day furlough in London, England. While there, I found out that my brother, David, was stationed in Liverpool, England. I first talked to him by telephone then went to visit him for a few days. We had not seen each other in more than three years. We had a great time while we were together.

Thank you to ever one that contributed to these great memories.

Edward Jackson  
June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006