



From Left: James Send; Della Annis Send, Eldon Walker, Myra Annis Walker, Homer Augustus Annis, Marie (Worgul) Annis, Francis G. Annis, Louise Annis Linderman, Clarence Linderman. Photo was taken June 14, 1986 (Homer's 90th birthday) and was furnished by Myra Annis Walker

Francis George Annis

1925-2005

Deadeye, 96th Infantry Division, 383

Francis Annis was born January 10, 1925 at Grayling, Michigan, the son of Homer Augustus and Caroline

Francelia (Papendick) Annis. He married June 11, 1947, Marie Worgul at Lansing, Michigan.

Inducted into the United States Army on June 16, 1943, Francis was sent to Keesler Field, Biloxi, Mississippi for basic training, and then attended Engineering school in the Army Specialized Training Program at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan in the fall and winter of 1943-1944.

In April of 1944 he attended more training at Camp White, Medford, Oregon, after which he was assigned to the 381st Infantry, 96th Division and sent to Hawaii for amphibious and jungle training.

His Division was sent via convoy to the island of Eniwetok in preparation for the assault landing at Leyte (October 20, 1944) and Samar Island (January 4, 1945) in the Philippines.

At 0801 hour, April 1, 1945, as part of the 2nd wave assault, he participated in the Battle for Okinawa. Francis was wounded by fragments from a mortar shell on May 27th, and on June 12th was the victim of a sniper's bullet.

He was sent to the General Hospital on the island of Guam, but by October 1945 had recovered from his wounds in time to help in the "clean-up" operations at Mindaro Island, Philippines.

On December 16, 1945 he departed Leyte and arrived in San Francisco, California on January 6, 1946. After some time in a hospital at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, he was discharged and returned home to his loved ones on February 16, 1946.

He was awarded the Bronze Star w/ 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster; Purple Heart w/ 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster; American Theater Ribbon; Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon w/ 2 Bronze Battle Stars; Victory Medal; Good Conduct Medal; Combat Infantry Badge; Republic of the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation.

Francis attended Central Michigan University and Michigan State University and afterwards he worked for the state of Michigan as a Chemist and Chemical Engineer. He was a member of the American Chemical Society, National Society of Professional Engineers, National Rifle Society and the Michigan United Conservation Club.

He resided in Lansing, Michigan in the last years of his life and died May 8, 2005 at Flushing, Michigan. Francis lies at peace in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens, DeWitt, Michigan