

National Archives & Records Administration War Department Files

**1 LT Richard A. Reynolds
Class 31-42**

Distinguished Service Cross



ID: 01170532

Branch of Service: U.S. Army

Hometown: Shelby County, TN

Status: KIA 5 Feb 44

Buried at Memphis National Cemetery, Memphis, Tennessee

Plot: H 6883

Distinguished Service Cross 1LT Richard A. Reynolds: Class 31-42

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pride in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross (Posthumously) to First Lieutenant (Field Artillery) Richard A. Reynolds (ASN: 0-1170532), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy while serving with the 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion. During the period 3 December to 4 December 1944, Lieutenant Reynolds heroically led his tank destroyer platoon of the 607th Tank Destroyer Battalion through the heavily defended town of Saarlautern, Germany, and across the Saar river to assist infantry elements in exploiting a bridgehead on the eastern Bank. He repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire while directing his platoon, completely disregarding his own safety. By his many conspicuous acts of heroism and fearless leadership he inspired his men to press forward relentlessly against the enemy. On one occasion, while heavily engaged with stubbornly resisting forces in the bridgehead area, he halted his tank destroyer in an exposed position and personally rescued members of another crew who were trapped in their burning tank destroyer. During subsequent action, while directing fire against enemy pillboxes, Lieutenant Reynolds was killed. The supreme devotion to duty and conspicuous heroism many times displayed by First Lieutenant Reynolds exemplify the highest traditions of the military forces of the United States and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. **General Orders:** Headquarters, Third U.S. Army, General Orders No. 18 (January 18, 1945)

