

U.S. Army PFC Joseph G. Cardoza *Died February 27th, 1945*



Joseph Cardoza was a native of Pleasanton. He graduated from grammar school in Pleasanton and had many friends both in Pleasanton and Livermore. He was inducted into the Army on September 18, 1942 and received his training at Camp Robinson, Arkansas. He was later transferred to Fort Lawton, Washington and then served a year in Alaska. When he returned from Alaska he went on a twenty day furlough (at home) before reporting to Camp Howze, Texas where he remained until he deployed to France on August 28, 1944.

Cardoza served with the 103d Infantry Division, 410th Infantry Regiment. They engaged in 34 battles in France and Germany.

On January 18th Cardoza was wounded in action and received a purple heart. He reported back to duty on January 31st to join his unit. On February 27th he was killed in action. He was buried on the field of battle in an American Cemetery. The Catholic Priest and Chaplain of the 410th blessed his grave and said mass. After the war in May of 1948 Joseph Cardoza was brought home to Pleasanton and buried with full honors. His name is inscribed on a bronze panel honoring the fallen at the 103d Infantry Division of WWII, on the 103d Monument in Gainesville, Texas.

