

## **William H. Taylor (19.. – 1944)**

William Taylor listed his home state as California.

(Note: There are four William H. Taylor's buried in American Battlefield Cemeteries overseas. This William H. Taylor was the only one with a Home state of California, and is therefore the one chosen until evidence suggests that another William H Taylor is the correct one.)

William Taylor was a Technician Fifth Class in the United States Army assigned to the HQ#3, 502<sup>nd</sup> Paratroop Infantry Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. His military service number was 39561394. A great account of these WWII Parachute Infantry Regiments can be found in the book, as well as the DVD "Band of Brothers", which features a sister Regiment.

A brief history of the 502<sup>nd</sup> PIR for June 5,1944 follows:

The 502nd left England from its staging area, Greenham Common, around 2330 hrs (11:30 pm) -- they headed for Drop Zone "A". At about 0049 hrs (49 minutes past midnight) on June 6th, Easy Company dropped into Normandy, but was mis-dropped by U.S. Army Air Force. They landed far south, near Drop Zone "C". For the next 30 or so days, Easy Company fought in every major battle, including the fight for Carentan.

He died on June 13, 1944, just one week after D-Day. He is buried at the Normandy American Cemetery at St. Laurent-sur-Mer, France. He is buried at Plot C, Row 16, Grave #11. His name is listed on a French Internet "Wall of Honor" as well as the Roll of Honor on the 502PIR, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Internet site. He was awarded the Purple Heart.

