

RAYNHAM FALLEN HERO

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WILFRED M. CABRAL, USA

Wilfred M. Cabral was born in Raynham, Massachusetts on September 3, 1917. Wil was from a large family. He had seven brothers and five sisters. He was not married.

Wil enlisted for the duration of the war in the United States Army in Boston on April 9, 1943 at age 26 and was assigned serial number 31309685.

Private First Class Cabral served with India Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. This unit served with distinction in North Africa. Private First Class Cabral joined the unit in Anzio, Italy and fought against the Germans up to Rome, Italy. In August, 1944, the 3rd Infantry Division re-deployed and landed at St. Tropaz, in southern France, and advanced up the Rhone Valley, through the Vosges Mountains, and was advancing towards the Rhine River in eastern France. Private First Class Cabral died from wounds received in the campaign on November 16, 1944 at age 27, after only nineteen months of service.

Private First Class Cabral received the following military awards for his honorable service:

Purple Heart Medal with white cross distinguishing device to denote a posthumous award

American Campaign Medal

European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

World War II Victory Medal

Private First Class Cabral was originally buried in France and reinterred in Saint Joseph's Cemetery in Taunton. His military headstone is located in Plot # 404.

Private First Class Cabral's home was near East Taunton in the Sandy Hill section of Raynham. For this reason, it is appropriate that his FALLEN HERO sign be erected on Sandy Hill Road at the intersection with South Street East.