

Willie Heidelberg

He was a **Korean War Era** casualty on November 27, 1950. ★ He served with honor in the **United States Army**. ★ He is remembered by the people of **Mississippi** ★ May his positive example inspire us, as global citizens. ★ When we work together, we can help one another. America's Fallen



Korean War



US Army



Mississippi



State Flower



Willie Heidelberg



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▼ STATE OVERVIEW

Mississippi

Willie Heidelberg is among the 3,910 American Gold Star casualties recorded in our archive with close ties to Mississippi. This is a substantial number of individuals who gave their lives in service to their country.

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SERVICE OVERVIEW

Name	Willie Heidelberg
From	Jones County, Mississippi
Death	November 27, 1950
War	Korean War
ID	14300637
Rank	Private First Class
Specialty	Light Weapons Infantryman

Branch US Army
Group 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division
POW Status Reported Dead while Captured, Prisoner of War
Cause Captured, Died, Nonbattle
Location North Korea, Battle of Chosin Reservoir
Awarded ★ Prisoner of War Medal
★ Purple Heart

ORIGINS



According to our records [Mississippi](#) was his home or enlistment state and [Jones County](#) included within the archival record.

SERVICE



He had enlisted in the United States Army. Served during the Korean War. Heidelberg had the rank of Private First Class. His military occupation or specialty was Light Weapons Infantryman. Service number assignment was 14300637. Attached to 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

CASUALTY



During his service in the Korean War, Army Private First Class Heidelberg experienced a critical situation which ultimately resulted in loss of life on [November 27, 1950](#). **Recorded circumstances attributed to: Captured, Died, Nonbattle. Incident location: North Korea, Battle of Chosin Reservoir.**

DETAILS



The Battle of Chosin Reservoir, also known as the Chosin Reservoir Campaign was a decisive battle in the Korean War. On 27 November, the Chinese Army surprised UN Forces at the Chosin Reservoir area. A brutal 17-day battle in freezing weather and rough terrain soon followed. In the period between 27 November and 13 December 1950, 30,000 United Nations troops were encircled and attacked by approximately 120,000 Chinese troops.

The cold weather was accompanied by frozen ground, resulting in frostbite casualties, icy roads, and weapon malfunctions. In the end over 17,000 UN forces were killed or wounded or missing in action, or died of wounds. The Chinese suffered 3 times that amount.

REMEMBERED



Willie is remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington. This is a National Parks Service and American Battle Monuments Commission location.

COMMENDATIONS

- ★ Prisoner of War Medal
- ★ Purple Heart
- ★ Combat Infantryman Badge
- ★ Marksmanship Badge
- ★ Korean Service Medal
- ★ National Defense Service Medal
- ★ Republic of Korea Presidential Citation
- ★ Republic of Korea War Service Medal
- ★ United Nations Service Medal
- ★ Army Presidential Unit Citation
- ★ Army Good Conduct Medal





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