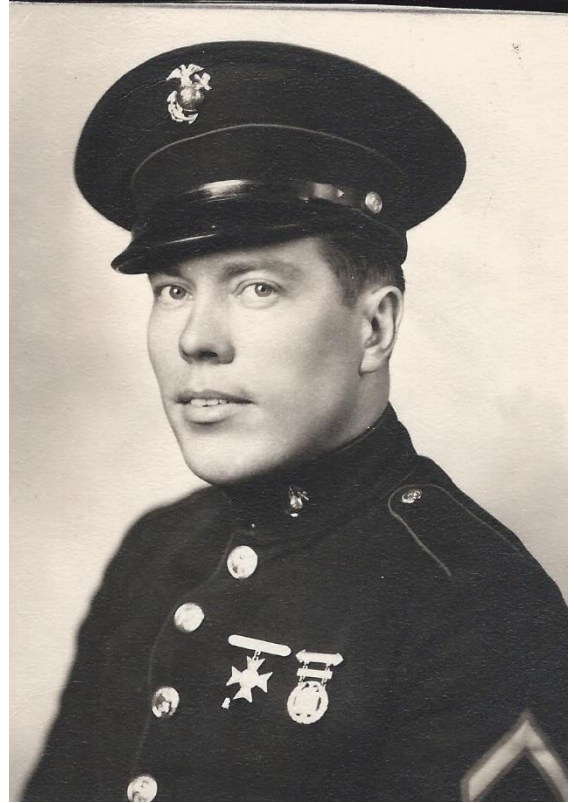


# Curtis E Wilde

Compiled by Judy Hansen  
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Curtis Ephraim Wilde was born the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 1915 in American Fork, Utah County, Utah to Heber Daniel Wild and Mathilda Josephine Nelson. He had siblings Mary, Harry, Laura, Reah, Mark, and Legrand. Curtis attended schools in American Fork, Utah where he graduated from American Fork High and then worked as a member of the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) for two years. At the CCC he would have earned at least \$30 a month but \$25 had to be sent home to the family.

Curtis enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on March 6<sup>th</sup> 1940 and trained in San Diego, California. In April 1942 he was assigned to Marine Barracks, Naval Ammunition Depot at Puget Sound, Washington. In January 1943 he was stationed and served in Marine Barracks at the Naval Operating Base in Sitka, Alaska. Here they provided major defense to the United States Mainland as they were the only major military base on the west coast north of Puget Sound. The Japanese wanted control of the Aleutian Islands and the base in Sitka was always on red alert waiting for an attack of the main Island. On June 10, 1943 he was promoted to Corporal. In January of 1944, he was with guard company number 1 at Marine Barracks, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington and had been promoted to Sergeant by this time.



Curtis then went to the Hawaiian Islands before leaving to serve at Iwo Jima. He was in Company D of the 27<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment 5<sup>th</sup> Marine Division commanded by Colonel Thomas A. Wornham.

From the website *Marines: Together We Served* it states, “*The 5th Division landed on Iwo Jima on 19 February 1945, southeast of Mount Suribachi. The division sustained heavy initial losses, so much so that by that afternoon, the 26th Marine Regiment (26th Marines) had to be released as the division reserve. On 23 February, two American flags were raised on Mount Suribachi by members of the 28th Marine Regiment (28th Marines). The 5th Division would fight on Iwo Jima from 19 February until 26 March where they would sustain 2,482 killed in action, 19 missing in action, and 6,218 wounded in action. This was the highest casualty rate among the three Marine divisions involved in the invasion. The 5th Division began loading onto ships on 26 March, finally leaving Iwo Jima on 27 March 1945 sailing for Hawaii.*”

Curtis was killed in action at Iwo Jima on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 1945. He was only on the Island four days. He received a citation for bravery in the Iwo Jima campaign and was awarded posthumously the Purple Heart. His brother, LeGrande Wilde was killed on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February

1946 in a mining accident after being furloughed from the Army to farm. A double funeral was held for Curtis and his brother in the American Fork 1<sup>st</sup> Ward LDS Chapel Thursday Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 1946. Curtis was initially buried in the Fifth Division Marine Cemetery at Iwo Jima but his remains were brought home and he was buried in the American Fork City Cemetery on December 30<sup>th</sup> 1948. His name is honored on the American Fork City Cemetery Veteran's Monument.

This story is a combined effort of the Lehi Historical Society and part of the Stories Behind the Stars project (see [www.storiesbehindthestars.org](http://www.storiesbehindthestars.org)). This is a national effort of volunteers to write the stories of all 400,000+ of the US WWII fallen here on Fold3. Can you help write these stories? Related to this, there will be a smart phone app that will allow people to visit any war memorial or cemetery, scan the fallen's name and read his/her story.

WWII Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Casualty List

<https://www.fold3.com/image/311040892?rec=301005287>

WWII Draft Registration Cards

<https://www.fold3.com/image/597436371?terms=curtis,corps,marine,war,wilde,e,ii,world>

U.S. Headstone Application for Military Veterans

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2375>

Utah, Veterans with Federal Service Buried in Utah

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60210/images/MM9.3.1\\_2FTH-267-11850-159906-36?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw22&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.11853300.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=18329](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60210/images/MM9.3.1_2FTH-267-11850-159906-36?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw22&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.11853300.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=18329)

Utah, Military Records

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2228/images/31805\\_00025275-00020?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw24&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.221224536.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=197205](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2228/images/31805_00025275-00020?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw24&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.221224536.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=197205)

Utah, Military Record 2

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2228/images/31805\\_00025275-00018?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw25&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.179607140.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=197202](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2228/images/31805_00025275-00018?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw25&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.179607140.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=197202)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068\\_272162-](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_272162-)

[00044?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw29&\\_phstart=successSource&pId=30711696](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_274238-00460?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw29&_phstart=successSource&pId=30711696)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068\\_274238-00460?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw31&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.209154514.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=23254202](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_274238-00460?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw31&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.209154514.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=23254202)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068\\_269853-00469?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw33&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.253530825.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=19785073](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_269853-00469?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw33&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.253530825.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=19785073)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068\\_274505-00142?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw34&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.242589378.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=23468033](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_274505-00142?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw34&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.242589378.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=23468033)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls

[https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068\\_272283-00389?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=Pzw35&\\_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&\\_ga=2.250902214.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=17393495](https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1089/images/33068_272283-00389?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&queryId=59f107221ec724c8dd95dc987949ff86&usePUB=true&_phsrc=Pzw35&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.250902214.1592168973.1597179722-191968104.1597088908&pId=17393495)

Marines: Together We served

<https://marines.togetherweserved.com/usmc/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=UnitHistoryDetail&type=UnitHistory&ID=1472>

The Fifth Marine Division by John C Chapin

[https://www.usmcu.edu/Portals/218/Chapin\\_The%20Fifth%20Marine%20Division.pdf](https://www.usmcu.edu/Portals/218/Chapin_The%20Fifth%20Marine%20Division.pdf)

American Fork Citizen, Fri June 25, 1943

American Fork Citizen, Fri March 30, 1945

The Daily Herald Mon April 2, 1945

American Fork Citizen, Fri Feb 15, 1946

Salt Lake Telegram Wed Dec 29, 1948