

Glenn Schow Powell

Compiled Judy Hansen
July 2020

Education: 4 years of high school

Civil Occupation: Salespersons

Enlistment Date: 5 Jun 1943

Enlistment Place: Salt Lake City, Utah

Service Number: 39915757

Branch: Army – Headquarters 3rd Battalion
274th Infantry, 70 Division
Company I

Rank: Private 1st Class (PFC)

Height: 98 (8ft 2 in)

Weight: 116

KIA: 16 Jan 1945 Alsace Loraine,
France



Glenn Schow Powell was born 1 July 1924 in Levan, Juab County, Utah to Thaddeus Aston Powell and Nicoline Eliza Schow. He had older siblings, Esther, Effie, Marvin, Keith, and Wayne who were all born in Lehi, Utah. The family moved to Juab County living in Delta and then the small town of Levan, Utah which had a population of about 600. This is where Glenn and his younger sister Donna were born.

Glenn's father died when Glenn was just 5 years old and this left his mother to raise the large family alone. The Stock Market crashed in 1929 and then three years of drought caused the flowing wells to go dry. In 1933 Glenn's mother was diagnosed with Breast Cancer and so she moved her family back to Lehi, Utah where she had extended family that could help her raise all her children. She was forced to sell her 365 acre farm in Levan for practically nothing.

Glenn attended schools in Lehi. At Lehi High he worked on the High School year book staff and also played for the Pioneer Tennis Team. He graduated from Lehi High in 1942 and then attended L.D.S

Business College in Salt Lake City. He was employed by the General Motors Company of Salt Lake for some time before he entered the service on 5 June 1943.

Glenn, this tall, lanky young man recorded at 98 inches (8 ft 2 in) weighing 116 pounds trained at Camp Roberts, California with the artillery and then was sent to the University of Montana to study engineering. In March 1944 he was transferred to the infantry and stationed at Camp Adair, Oregon. From there he was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri which is where we can pick up the story of Company I of the Headquarters 3rd Battalion 274 Infantry to which he was assigned.

Company I left Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri on Nov 17, 1944. They went through St. Louis, crossed the mighty Mississippi and through Southern Illinois. They stopped at Chicago for a short time and then onto Northern Indiana, Ohio, and through several cities and towns in New York and into Boston.

Once at the pier, hundreds of submarines could be seen all around the ship. On Dec 1, 1944 the company expected the worst for the North Atlantic crossing. The weather was rough and windy with overcast skies. It finally cleared after three days at sea. On the eighth day being escorted by a pair of destroyers they could see the Rock of Gibraltar. After sailing all night they came into the port of Marseille in the morning where they anchored and waited to disembark. There they were taken to a large plateau known as CP-2.

The first night it rained pretty hard. They spent the next 10 days in tents on CP-2 and on Dec 21 prepared to leave at midnight. They were trucked to a deserted railroad a few miles away where they were divided into groups of 25, each assigned to freight cars. Traveling north through Avignon, Valence Lyon, Dijon, and Epinal they witnessed German equipment knocked out by the sweep of the 7th Army. Early in the afternoon of the 24th they arrived at Sarrebourg which had recently been captured by the 26th Division. After some delay they left for Brumath in Alsace which was as far as the trains could run. After traveling about 500 miles in one of the famous forty and eight box cars, morale was low and they all lined up waiting for the next thing to happen.

Starting their destination on foot they hiked through the small blacked out town of Brumath. They could see French flags hanging from the buildings and people looking out their windows at them. It was Christmas Eve and they could hear the occasional flare shot off in the sky and then a thunder of guns in the distances. It was cold and damp. It was one of the coldest winters recorded. Rumors were that German Paratroopers had landed in the night. There was no sound as they marched passed German graves into the next town. There was not one murmur of 'Merry Christmas' as the tired soldiers found quarters and soon everyone was asleep. The next morning they were able to open gifts of variously marked boxes of *First half, Rations Ten in One, Menu # Four*, and so forth. Christmas dinner was "one canned Egg Unit" per man and one partial dinner unit." It was here a little six year old girl, who for candy and sugar would sing, "Oh Tannenbaum" bringing the Christmas spirit to the troops. This was in Bischweiller. After two days the company moved to Herrlesheim. Herrlesheim was a beautiful little town of about 1500 people approximately 3 kilometers from the west bank of the Rhine.

Dec 28 they dug in along a road on the French side of the Rhine River and spent 6 hours in those fox-holes. Along the Rhine "mines and trip flares were scattered over the ground to our front. Many flares went off supposedly by rabbits tripping the wires." U.S. artillery was intermittently firing across the Rhine.

They spent New Year's Eve in foxholes near the Rhine with the German MLR (main line of resistance) across the river. On Jan 2nd they were told to be ready to move at any time and the next morning they moved out in a northwesterly direction. Everything was intense as they were told anything that moved in the front was enemy. They came to a halt just to the left of a woods near Ingweiller in Alsace where they moved their bivouac area into the wood, dug their holes, and bedded down to try to get as much sleep as possible despite the fact the foxholes were filling with water.

The next morning they found out that the German's had broken through East of Rothback and they started sending platoons to help "L" Company. This new threat rendered the reconnaissance useless. Darkness came quickly and they found themselves without foxholes. They also realized they were in the wrong area, about 700 yards too far advanced. At 2300 hours they made a daring, dangerous withdraw and was able to spend the rest of the night in relative safety, sleeping behind U.S. tanks. The snow was thick and a fire was a very welcome site.

The night of the January 7th I Co was moved left to cover the withdraw of L Co. Then they found out that the valley they were moving into was mined and there were German snipers there picking off men. The company marched into Niederbronn from Zinswiller. The first five days in Winterberg was mostly patrol. Men improved the foxholes and put covers on them, and the platoons were wired in by phones. Some of the foxholes were big enough to put tables in.

Saturday January 13, the mission was to investigate enemy activities on a mountain top approximately 1 mile to the left front. Going up the mountain was slow and tiresome. They knew enemy was in the area because of the fresh trails in the snow. They were able to capture German prisoners but it was slippery as they ran up and down the mountain in the snow. During Company I stay on top Winterberg they spent several cold and miserable days in the beautiful scenery. There was a severe water shortage so they made coffee from melted snow. January 14th they received their first PX rations. Little did they know what was in store for them the next day.

The morning of January 15th, they lay in their fox holes and the order came that they were going to attack. Cold numbed fingers rolled up blankets, packed, and a K ration was given to each man. Company I was going to go through L Companies area and attack. Everyone lined up in the road. It was still dark when they started to move. They marched around to the opposite side of the hill into full morning. Suddenly there was a burst of machine gun fire. They hit the ground and waited. This was the first time they were ever under small arms fire. After ten minutes they withdrew but they returned shortly and dug the Germans out of their holes. As the front of the column moved out and reached the valley a short burst of machine gun fire broke the silent air and the battle was on! The battle was fierce and many German's lost their lives as well as American's. Only two men from company I gave their life that day. When men would try to surrender the calls came crying, "Kill the sonsofbitchs!" You could immediately sense the change that had come over normal humans turning them into brutal, cold blooded killers. Shots were flying overhead and there were all kinds of confusion. As the shelling let down, rustling in the woods continued. American's watched for German Soldiers that was still in the area. During the battle they also continued to dig more foxholes.

The morning of the 2nd day of battle, January 16, 1945 morale was down. There had been several days of cold K rations. They wanted to have a special feast. The cooks set up a chow line and the German "Heinies" as they called them were watching close by. It was in the middle of the afternoon and the first bite since K rations breakfast. The cooks had brought roast beef and potatoes with string beans. They

also made a large quantity of fudge. Mail had also come along with the chow. After they had fed about half the men all of a sudden three rounds of 88's (88 mm artillery piece which fired flat trajectory and extremely accurate) were thrown. The chow flew as men ran for holes and dove everywhere. The cooks didn't know where to go and hit the ground where they were. The three rounds had done damage. We don't know if Glenn was able to feast on the roast beef or read any mail he may have received as this was the day he laid down his life for his country along with two others from Company I, Pfc. Elie M Landry and Pfc. William I Catron.

Some quotes from the men of Company I:

"Its awful being where you don't dare stamp your feet in your hole at night . . . even though they are numb and your boots are frozen . . . because a Jerry may have crawled up within yards of your hole with a grenade, waiting to throw it at the slightest sound or movement."

"This biggest strain is while you're standing guard in your hole while two of your buddies sleep. You've got one hour of guard and two in which to sleep-then you're on again. Each minute of that hour seems like an hour in itself. Men crack under the strain. Eventually it's almost dawn . . . what you've been praying for for hours. Then somewhere off to your right, about fifty yards, a burp gun is fired along with a few German rifles. Then . . . all's quiet . . . quiet until an 88 or mortar shell drops not too far from your hole . . . maybe only yards away . . . sometimes even feet. You pray to God that the next one will not drop in it.

"After daylight you go from hole to hole talking to your boys – for it helps them and you too. My God . . . you find one of the holes empty . . . the men gone . . . rifles and equipment where they left it. There are German boot tracks heading toward the German line only one hundred yards to your front. If you follow the tracks, slugs from the machine-gun will penetrate the brush. Then and there you vow that you'll avenge them."

From the life history of Glenn's mother we read:

"Three of Nicoline's boys served their country in World War II. Glenn listed his mother as a dependent and she received some money from the government. This was such a blessing to her to know that every month she would have some steady income. On February 3, 1945, she got the telegram that Glenn had been killed in action at Alsace Lorraine, France on January 16, 1945. That was a bleak and dreary day. In Glenn's patriarchal blessing he was told that he would go down to his grave as head of the family. We never dreamed it would be mother's family, but what a blessing it was for mother to have a steady income for as long as she lived from his insurance."



REGISTRATION CARD (Men born on or after July 1, 1924, and on or before December 31, 1924) (Also for the registration of men as they reach the 18th anniversary of the date of their birth on or after January 1, 1943.)			FORM APPROVED Budget Bureau No. 83-R-1012-42
SERIAL NUMBER W 3	1. NAME (Print) Glen Schow Powell (First) (Middle) (Last)	ORDER NUMBER 12697	
2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 290 South First West, Lehi, Utah, Utah (Street and number, city, state) <small>(Name of town or city if different from above)</small>	3. THE PLACE OF RESIDENCE GIVEN ON LINE 2 ABOVE WILL DETERMINE LOCAL BOARD JURISDICTION; LINE 2 OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WILL BE IDENTICAL		
3. MAILING ADDRESS same <small>(Mailing address if other than place indicated on line 2. If same, insert word same)</small>	4. TELEPHONE -		
5. AGE IN YEARS 18	6. PLACE OF BIRTH Leaven, Utah <small>(Town or city)</small>		
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS Nicoline Powell, Lehi, Utah <small>(Name) (Address)</small>	8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS General Merchants Truck & Coach Co. <small>(Name and address of employer, if known)</small>		
9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS 974 South Main, Salt Lake City, Utah <small>(Name and street or P. O. Box no.)</small>	I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE. Glen Schow Powell <small>(Registrant's signature)</small>		



FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS		STATE OF UTAH CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
		State File No. Registrar's No. <u>29</u>	
<p>MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING</p> <p>N.B.—WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.</p> <p>1. PLACE OF DEATH: (a) County <u>Franklin</u> (b) City or town <u>(If outside city or town limits write RURAL)</u> (c) Name of hospital or institution <u>World War 2 Veteran</u> (If not in hospital or institution give street number or location) (d) Length of stay: In hospital or institution <u>until death</u> In this community <u>(Specify whether years, months or days)</u></p> <p>2. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: (a) State <u>Utah</u> (b) County <u>Utah</u> (c) City or town <u>Franklin</u> (If outside city or town limits write RURAL) (d) Street No. <u>290 South 1st West</u> (If rural give location) (e) In this community <u>20 years</u> (Years) <u>0 months</u> (Months) (f) If foreign born, how long in U.S.A. <u>years</u></p> <p>3. (a) FULL NAME <u>John Robert Powell</u> 3. (b) If veteran, <u># 2</u> 3. (c) Social Security name war <u>No. 52-24-5045</u></p> <p>4. Sex <u>Male</u> 5. Color or <u>white</u> 6. (a) Single, widowed, married or divorced <u>single</u></p> <p>6. (b) Name of husband or wife 6. (c) Age of husband or wife if alive <u>yrs.</u></p> <p>7. Birth date of deceased <u>July 1 1924</u> (Month) <u>July</u> (Day) <u>1</u> (Year) <u>1924</u></p> <p>8. AGE <u>20</u> Years <u>6</u> Months <u>15</u> Days <u>If less than one day</u> <u>hrs. _____ min.</u></p> <p>9. Birthplace <u>Franklin, Utah</u> (City, town, or county) <u>(State or foreign country)</u></p> <p>10. Usual occupation <u>Highway Patrolman</u></p> <p>11. Industry or business <u>Highway Patrol</u></p> <p>12. Name <u>John Robert Powell</u></p> <p>13. Birthplace <u>Franklin</u> (City, town, or county) <u>(State or foreign country)</u></p> <p>14. Maiden name <u>Robertine Schaefer</u></p> <p>15. Birthplace <u>Franklin</u> (City, town, or county) <u>(State or foreign country)</u></p> <p>16. (a) Informant's own signature <u>John Robert Powell</u> (b) Address <u>Franklin</u></p> <p>17. (a) <u>Buried</u> (b) Date thereof <u>7/13/48</u> (Burial, cremation, or removal) <u>(Month) (Day) (Year)</u> (c) Place: burial or cremation <u>Franklin Cemetery</u></p> <p>18. (a) Mortuary <u>Franklin Cemetery</u> (b) Signature of funeral director <u>Robert W. Wiegert</u> (c) Address <u>Franklin</u> (d) License No. <u>1-11</u></p> <p>19. (a) <u>Dec. 13, 1948</u> (b) <u>Miller Kirkham</u> (Date received by local register) (Registrar's signature)</p>			
MEDICAL CERTIFICATION			
<p>20. DATE OF DEATH (Month, day, and year) <u>January 16, 1948</u></p> <p>21. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>_____</u>, 19<u>48</u>, to <u>_____</u>, 19<u>48</u>; I last saw him <u>alive</u> on <u>_____</u>; death occurred on the date stated above, at <u>_____</u> m. Immediate cause of death <u>Hillman census</u> <u>at time of death</u> Due to <u>Hillman census</u> Death certificate no. <u>M. 4020R</u></p> <p>Other conditions (Include pregnancy within 3 months of death)</p> <p>Major findings: Next of Kin: Of operations <u>Mrs. Nicoline Powell</u> Of autopsy <u>Mother</u></p> <p>Physician Underline the cause to which death is to be charged sta- tistically.</p> <p>22. If death was due to external causes, fill in the following: (a) Accident, suicide, or homicide (specify) (b) Date of occurrence (c) Where did injury occur? <u>(City or town) (County) (State)</u> (d) Did injury occur in or about home, on farm, in industrial place, in public place? <u>(Specify type of place)</u> (e) While at Work? (f) Means of injury</p> <p>23. Signature <u>John Robert Powell</u> (M.D. or other) 19. Address</p>			

NAME Powell, Glenn S. SERIAL NUMBER 39915757
 RANK PFC ORGANIZATION 174th Infantry 70 Division BRANCH Army
 PERIOD OF SERVICE World War II
 DATE OF ENLISTMENT 5 June 1943 PLACE Salt Lake City, Utah
 DATE OF DISCHARGE KIA 16 Jan 1945 PLACE France
 DATE OF BIRTH 1 July 1924 PLACE Levan, Utah
 DATE OF DEATH KIA 16 Jan 1945 PLACE France
 PLACE OF BURIAL CITY Lehi COUNTY Utah
 CEMETERY City PLOT LOCATION Block 50 Lot 3
 NEXT OF KIN ADDRESS RELATIONSHIP
 REMARKS:

MARKER Yes DATE VERIFIED

Powell, Glenn S.	Utah	Lehi	City	Block 50 Lot 3
POWELL, THOMAS JAMES	UTAH CO.	LEHI	CITY	BL 50 L 1
PRATT, ALBERT LEE	UTAH CO.	LEHI	CITY	BL. 14, Lot 9
PRICE, PAUL J.	UTAH CO.	LEHI	CITY	PL.A L.13
PULLEY, LE VIRL	UTAH CO.	LEHI	CITY	BL 46 L 3

Glen Powell Reported Killed In Action

Pvt. Glen Schow Powell, 20, was killed in action in France January 16, according to word received by his mother, Mrs. Nicholine Powell, on Monday. He had been overseas six weeks.

Pvt. Powell was born in Levan July 1, 1924, and moved here with his family ten years ago. He graduated from the Lehi high school in 1942. He attended the L. D. S. Business college in Salt Lake City, and was employed by the General Motors company of that city for some time before entering the service in June, 1943.

He trained at Camp Roberts, California, with the artillery, then was sent to the University of Montana to study engineering. In March, 1944 he was transferred to the infantry, and stationed at Camp Adair, Oregon. From there he was sent to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and assigned overseas late in November, 1944. He arrived in France the early part of December, 1944.

He was an Elder in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and took an active part in church work.

He is survived by his mother, Nicholine Schow Powell, three brothers, Marvin Powell, of Levan, Keith Powell of Lehi, and S/Sgt. Wayne Powell of the U. S. Army Air Corps in Colorado Springs, Colorado; three sisters, Mrs. Ralph (Ilene) Jackman and Mrs. Cecil (Maurine) Stephenson of Levan, and Miss Donna Mae Powell of Lehi, and a grandmother, Mrs. Esther Powell, of Lehi. His father, the late Thaddeus Powell, died fifteen years ago.

Utahn Listed as Killed in Action, 2 Others Reported Wounded

(See today's roll of honor on local page.)

One Utahn has been reported killed in action and two others wounded.

Pfc. Glenn Schow Powell, killed in France, was born in Levan July 1, 1924, a son of Thaddeus A. and Nicholine S. Powell. He was a graduate of Lehi high school and later attended L D S Business college, later being employed by General Motors Co. in Salt Lake City.

He entered the service in June, 1943, and was assigned overseas in November, 1944.

He was a member of Lehi First L D S ward.

Besides his mother, he is survived by six brothers and sisters: T/Sgt. Wayne S. Powell, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Mrs. Ilene Jackman, Mrs. Maurine Stephenson and Marion Powell, Levan, and Donna Mae and Keith Powell, Lehi, and a grandmother, Mrs. Esther Powell, Lehi.

* * *

Earl Dean Robertson, wounded in the south Pacific, has been in the navy a year and overseas eight months. He has a brother, M M M 1/c Harold L. Robertson, who also is serving in the navy in the Atlantic theater of operations.



Pfc. Glenn Schow Powell . . .
Infantryman dies in France.

REFERENCES:

Utah Veterans with Federal Service buried in Utah, 1847 – 1966 for Glenn S Powell

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60210/images/MM9.3.1_2FTH-267-11850-159910-72?treeid=&personid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=RsG228&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&pld=16852&backurl=http%3A%2F%2Fsearch.ancestry.com%2Fcgi-bin%2Fsse.dll%3Findiv%3D1%26dbid%3D60210%26h%3D16852%26tid%3D%26pid%3D%26usePUB%3Dtue%26_phsrc%3DRsG228%26_phstart%3DsuccessSource

Registration Card

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2238/images/44041_05_00021-01229?treeid=&personid=&hintid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=RsG229&_phstart=successSource&usePUBJs=true&_ga=2.229469980.168007279.1593655890-1004001888.1591474577&pld=10948703&backurl=https%3A%2F%2Fsearch.ancestry.com%2Fcgi-bin%2Fsse.dll%3Findiv%3D1%26dbid%3D2238%26h%3D10948703%26tid%3D%26pid%3D%26usePUB%3Dtrue%26_phsrc%3DRsG229%26_phstart%3DsuccessSource

70th Infantry Division Casualty List

<https://www.trailblazersww2.org/pdf/Trailblazers%20Revised%20Casualty%20List.pdf>

Narrative History 3rd Battalion 70th division

https://www.trailblazersww2.org/Docs/275_3Bn.pdf

Winter campaign – history of Company I

https://www.trailblazersww2.org/Docs/I_274.pdf

Life story of his mother Nicoline Eliza Schow