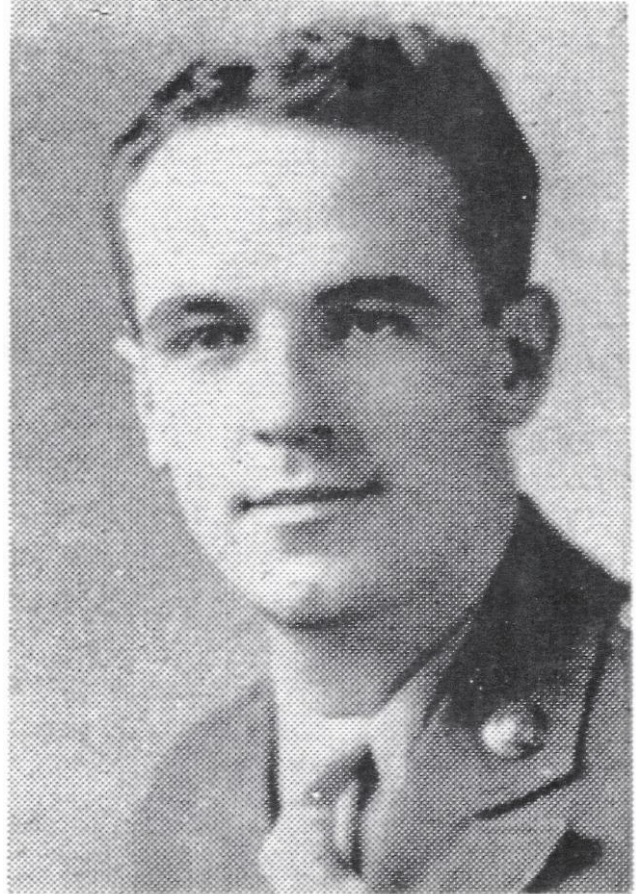


Keith G Davis

Compiled by Judy Hansen
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Keith Giles Davis was born 17 January 1917 in Lehi, Utah County, Utah to Alphonso W and Della Maud Giles Davis. He was the youngest with siblings Donna, Ralph, and Roberta. He learned to farm and graduated Lehi High School after which he attended Brigham Young University (BYU) for two years.

Keith enlisted in the U.S. Army on 21 March 1941 and received training at Ft. Knox, Kentucky; Ft. Lewis, Washington; and Camp Bowie, Texas. During a Furlough home from Fort Lewis, Washington he eloped and married Donavieve Ruth Anderson on 6 Aug 1941 in Franklin, Idaho. The couple surprised their parents by sending a telegram home letting them know they had been married and how delighted she was with her 5'6", 135 pound, Brown haired, blue eyed man.



Keith G. Davis

Keith went overseas on 9 January 1944 and fought in the European Theater. He was assigned to the 749th Tank Battalion. This battalion was assigned to different units at different times. They left England and debarked on Utah Beach in Cherbourg, France on June 29, 1944 - 24 days after D-Day. They joined with the 79th Infantry Division. This was part of General Patton's Third Army. General Patton told his Officers "you're going to be up to your neck in blood and guts," which is why they called him 'Old Blood and Guts.' The 749th fought across France very rapidly going through Laval and onto La Mans. The 79th were the first Americans to cross the Seine River and attached to the 315th Regiment. It was a horrific fight for months on end. (For a full description of the fighting see The Cross of Lorraine: a combat history of the 79th Infantry Division, June 1942-December 1945 page 61.

On Sept 12, 1944 Regiment 314 was fighting at Charmes, the 313th at Poussay and Ambacourt, and the 315th Regiment at Neufchateau. They were spread across a forty mile front line with a lot of resistance. It was during this time on 13 September 1944 that Staff Sgt. Keith G Davis was killed at Chaumont, France after fighting brutally for almost four months. He left behind his widow and a 14 month old daughter Dianna Davis who was born June 24, 1943 in Texas.

This story is a combined effort of the Lehi Historical Society and the Stories Behind the Stars project, a national effort of volunteers to write the stories of all 400,000+ of the US WW2 fallen on Fold3. 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.

1948, BYU, These We Honor, Page 18 Vol 23, No. 10

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