

In Memory of
U.S. Army Private

Glenn Melvin Dow

Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Minnehaha County

September 21, 1924 – June 6, 1944

Killed in Action on D-Day at Omaha Beach in France



Glenn Melvin Dow was born September 21, 1924, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to Haakon and Mitilda Dow. Raised and educated in Sioux Falls, Glenn graduated from Washington in 1943. While he was in school, he worked for his father at the family's business, Golden Rule Bakery.

On June 19, 1943, Glenn Dow entered active service at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. After he was trained, Private Dow was sent overseas in March of 1944 as a rifleman, Company I, 116th Infantry, 29th Infantry Division, to prepare for the Invasion of France. The family received a letter from the Commanding Officer of the 116th Infantry, which gave specific information about their son's death:

On 6 June 1944, Glenn landed on "Omaha Beach" with his assault section, in the face of heavy opposition. Enemy weapons of all types continually directed their fire upon the narrow landing strip, and many brave men fell before the beachhead was established. Glenn advanced up the beach with his section and was wounded when he stepped on a mine. He was immediately given first aid and moved onto the beach for evacuation. For this reason he was initially reported as seriously wounded in action. When no trace could be found that Glenn had been evacuated and because the beach had been subjected to heavy enemy shelling and Glenn could not be located, the report was then changed to missing in action. After a complete investigation of all available information, it has been determined that your son's death was caused by enemy shelling, while awaiting evacuation to a hospital...

Private Glenn Dow was buried at Plot J, Row 19, Grave 8, at Normandy American Cemetery, St. Laurent-sur-Mer, France. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

This entry was respectfully submitted by Sheila Hansen, Fallen Sons State Coordinator, Spearfish, SD, Information for this entry was provided by an application for a SD veteran's bonus payment.