



43rd Infantry Division

**William Earl Angstadt**  
**First Lieutenant U.S. Army**  
**19 April 1938 - 1945**

William was born on 23 April 1920 in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Sometime before 1930, his family moved from Ward 4 in Allentown to Allentown Rt. 2 in Lower Macungie Township, where they settled. After graduating from Allentown High School, William enlisted in the Army as a Private on 19 April 1938. He was sent to Hawaii where he was stationed at Schofield Barracks on the island of Oahu, during which time he became a Non-Commissioned Officer. He was at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 when the Japanese attacked the island. In July 1942, he left for Australia, where he was stationed and eventually attended Officer Candidate School. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry in January 1944, and was promoted to First Lieutenant while in Australia on 30 July 1944. In late 1944, William was sent to Dutch New Guinea, where he was made Commanding Officer of an infantry camp until leaving in January 1945 to join the 169<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, in the Philippine Islands for the Battle of Luzon. In May 1945, while serving as a Communications Officer with the Regiment, William was wounded in action on Luzon, suffering wounds to his left forearm and the calf of his left leg. He was temporarily evacuated to a hospital in the Philippines, and then to the military hospital at Hamilton Field in California. William came home in June 1945 on a 30-day furlough, after which he was transferred to a military hospital in Staunton, Virginia. William married **Margaret E. Merriman** (12 Jan 1923 – 3 November 1995). They lived in Berks County, Pennsylvania, initially in Gibraltar, then Shillington, and finally in Mifflin Court, Cumru Township, where William became owner-manager of Reading Bone Fertilizer Company in 1954 for 35 years. He retired in 1989. William was President of Pennsylvania Plant Food Society in 1961, President of Pennsylvania Inland Fertilizer Association in 1964 and 1965, and a Director of Pennsylvania Agricultural Industries Association in 1971 and 1976. He was a member of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Shillington. William and Margaret had four children: **William Donald Angstadt**, **David Warren Angstadt**, **Jeananne Marie Angstadt**, and **Barbara Ellen Angstadt**. William died on 10 Nov 2003 in Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, New Jersey, where he had been a patient for two weeks. William's parents were **Ralph Earl Angstadt** (7 January 1895 – 7 February 1954) and **Mary Agnes Scholl** (2 April 1900 – 5 June 1988). Two of William's brothers, **John Henry Angstadt** and **Richard Augustus Angstadt**, also served in the Army during World War II.