



88th Infantry



“Blue Devils” Patch

William Henry Miller
Corporal U.S. Army
17 April 1943 – 11 December 1945

William was born at home on 21 November 1922 in Wescosville, Lower Macungie Township, Pennsylvania. He attended grade school in Wescosville, and graduated from Allen High School in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1940 and Allentown Business College in 1941. He then worked for Willenbecker, Hanks & Company as an Auditor prior to being drafted into the Army. He went on active duty in Allentown on 17 April 1943 as a Private. After training at Camp Blanding, Florida, and Camp Robinson Arkansas, William was ordered to Company B, 1st Battalion, 351st Infantry (“Blue Devils”) Regiment, 88th Infantry Division. The main body of the 88th had arrived in the Naples, Italy, area in early February 1944. William left the States on 23 March 1944 to join the Division in Italy on 18 April 1944. On 11 May 1944, the 351st Infantry attacked toward Rome, pushing toward Spigno, and seizing Santa Maria Infante. On 2 June 44, they overran San Cesareo, and pushed through Rome on 4 June 44. After continuing across the Tiber River to Bassanelio, during the period 13 to 18 July 1944 the 351st advanced through Monte Foscoli and Portino towards San Romano on the Arno River. On 16 July 1944, after passing Monte Foscoli, William was wounded by a machine gun bullet that entered his left temple and exited behind his left ear, which left him deaf in that ear. The 88th Division then cleared the region below the Arno from 20 to 25 July 1944. They then bivouacked in the area of Montignoso to prepare for further attacks toward the Gothic Line, beginning on 10 September 1944, and during which the 351st Infantry, along with the 350th Infantry, captured Monte Capello. The 88th Division continued across the Po Valley to the Alps, capturing several towns along the way, including Verona on 25 April 1945 and Vincenza three days later. On 2 May 1945, the German Forces in Italy surrendered. The Regiment bivouacked at Salo until 12 June 1945, when they trucked to an airfield near Ghedi to guard 65,000 prisoners. On 29 November 1945, William returned to the States and was sent to Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, where he was discharged on 11 December 1945 as a Corporal. In addition to the Purple Heart, William was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, World War II Victory Medal, and European-African Middle Eastern Theater Medal for his participation in the Rome-Arno, North-Appennines, and Po Valley Campaigns. After his discharge, William returned home to Wescosville and resumed working for Willenbecker, Hanks & Company from 1946 to 1950. He earned his Certified Public Accountant Certificate (CPA) circa 1950 and then worked for Charles S. Rockey Company in Allentown as a partner for 15 years. In 1965 he started a partnership known as Faylor Miller & Company in Allentown for 10 years. He then formed his last partnership, Miller, Lang, Faylor, Arner & Company, CPAs, before retiring in December 1987. William married **Jeanne Louise Frankenfeld** (born 19 December 1922) on 10 May 1947 in St. Paul’s Church in Trexlertown, Pennsylvania. They lived in Wescosville until 1983, when they moved to Allentown. William and Jeanne had two children: **Donald James** and **Diane Louise Borelli**, and two grandsons, **Anthony Charles Borelli**, and **Michael Joseph Borelli**. William died on 26 August 1993 in the Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, and is buried at St. Paul’s Church cemetery. William’s parents were **Austin Ralph Miller** (3 July 1896 – 26 August 1981) and **Florence Catherine Kuhns** (13 October 1901 – 3 December 1987). William had three brothers: **Albert Noah**, who served in the Navy during World War II; **Robert Charles Franklin**, who served in the Marine Corps from June 1946 to May 1947; and **Richard Austin**, who served in the Army at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, from 1962 to 1963 and the Army Reserves from 1963 to 1968.