



**Howard V. Harlan (1915 – 1944)**

Howard Harlan was born in Imperial County, California in 1915 and listed his home of residence as California. In 1930, his father, George, was the principal at the High School in Calexico, CA. In 1944, his mother, Mrs. Georgia A. Harlan lived at 181 Madrona, in Chula Vista, CA. He entered military service in November 1939.

Howard Harlan was a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army Air Corps (USAAF) and assigned to the 30<sup>th</sup> Bomber Squadron, 19<sup>th</sup> Bomber Group stationed at Clark Field, Republic of the Philippines in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He was reported Missing in Action (MIA) or Buried at Sea on September 7, 1944 C. His service number was 06580642.

He lost his life while aboard a Japanese prison ship in the South Pacific. He was taken as a Prisoner of War on Mindanao and was believed to be among the 750 American soldiers that were being taken to a prison on Mainland Japan, when the ship was destroyed. Only 83 of the American prisoners were saved. A street in the Sunbow community of Chula Vista honors his name.

Sergeant Harlan graduated from Calexico High School in 1933, after which he was employed on some ranches in that region. He is also survived by his brother, George of Linda Vista and three sisters – Gladys, Shirley and Mrs. Beatrice Nelson living with their mother in Chula Vista. Mrs. Harlan has been living in Chula Vista since 1942.

His name appears on a “Tablet of the Missing” at the Manila American Cemetery at Manila, Republic of the Philippines. He was awarded the Air Medal and the Purple Heart.

