

WILLIAM J BABCOCK

DETAILS

- RANK: SERGEANT
- CONFLICT/ERA: U.S. CIVIL WAR
- UNIT/COMMAND:
2D RHODE ISLAND INFANTRY
- MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. ARMY
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: APRIL 2, 1865
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA, USA

CITATION

Planted the flag upon the parapet while the enemy still occupied the line; was the first of his regiment to enter the works.

WILLIAM GRANT FOURNIER

DETAILS

- RANK: SERGEANT
- CONFLICT/ERA: WORLD WAR II
- UNIT/COMMAND:
COMPANY M, 35TH INFANTRY,
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
- MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. ARMY
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: JANUARY 10, 1943
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: MOUNT AUSTEN, GUADALCANAL, SOLOMON ISLANDS

CITATION

For gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. As leader of a machine-gun section charged with the protection of other battalion units, his group was attacked by a superior number of Japanese, his gunner killed, his assistant gunner wounded, and an adjoining guncrew put out of action.

Ordered to withdraw from this hazardous position, Sgt. Fournier refused to retire but rushed forward to the idle gun and, with the aid of another soldier who joined him, held up the machine gun by the tripod to increase its field of action. They opened fire and inflicted heavy casualties upon the enemy. While so engaged both these gallant soldiers were killed, but their sturdy defensive action was a decisive factor in the following success of the attacking battalion.

DAVID BERNARD CHAMPAGNE

- RANK: CORPORAL

- CONFLICT/ERA: KOREAN WAR
- MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. MARINE CORPS
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: MAY 28, 1952
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: KOREA

CITATION For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a fire team leader of Company A, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Advancing with his platoon in the initial assault of the company against a strongly fortified and heavily defended hill position, Cpl. Champagne skillfully led his fire team through a veritable hail of intense enemy machine-gun, small-arms, and grenade fire, overrunning trenches and a series of almost impregnable bunker positions before reaching the crest of the hill and placing his men in defensive positions. **Suffering a painful leg wound while assisting in repelling the ensuing hostile counterattack, which was launched under cover of a murderous hail of mortar and artillery fire, he steadfastly refused evacuation and fearlessly continued to control his fire team. When the enemy counterattack increased in intensity, and a hostile grenade landed in the midst of the fire team, Cpl. Champagne unhesitatingly seized the deadly missile and hurled it in the direction of the approaching enemy. As the grenade left his hand, it exploded, blowing off his hand and throwing him out of the trench. Mortally wounded by enemy mortar fire while in this exposed position, Cpl. Champagne, by his valiant leadership, fortitude, and gallant spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of almost certain death, undoubtedly saved the lives of several of his fellow marines.** His heroic actions served to inspire all who observed him and reflect the highest credit upon himself and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.