



**Irving 'Larry'
Lazerus**

Army

Irving 'Larry' Lazerus

Aug 2, 1917 - Jan 8, 2006

BIRTHPLACE: Springfield, MA

SOLDIER DETAILS

HIGHEST RANK: Master Sergeant

DIVISION: Army, SHAEF

THEATER OF OPERATION: European

SERVED: Jun 11, 1943 - Dec 28, 1945

**HONORED BY: Daughters, Susan Cohen and Judi
Lazerus**

BIOGRAPHY

Irving M. 'Larry' Lazerus proudly served his country during World War II as a Master Sergeant on General Eisenhower's staff at Supreme Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) Headquarters. He landed on Utah Beach and was stationed in England, France and Germany. He was Chief Clerk of civilians hired by Supreme Headquarters in France and England. In Germany, he was responsible for the hiring, screening, and paying of all German civilians. He was also responsible for obtaining jobs, under civil service, for American soldiers who elected to remain in Germany as civilians. He spent two years overseas in the European Theater of Operations (ETO) with Headquarters Company, Headquarters Command, Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF). He received the following decorations and citations: Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Medal, European African Middle-Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon, and the Bronze Star Medal. The citation on his Bronze Star read: 'Master Sergeant Lazerus, through a high degree of initiative and utmost devotion to duty procured the necessary civilian personnel for Supreme Headquarters to perform the necessary labor, clerical and administrative details. Through initiation of new procedures devised through personal experience he carried out the administration of all civilian personnel of the headquarters in a manner which reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.' He was a member of the American Legion, the Louis Greene Post of the Jewish American War Veterans and a member of the SHAEF Alumni organization. Dad always promised our mother he would take her back and show her the places where he was stationed in Europe during the war. In 1992 he made good on that promise and they returned to England and France on a tour with the SHAEF Alumni organization. When we were children, he never talked about the war. But as he grew older and his short-term memory started failing, his long-term memory became stronger and he talked about the war. In his declining years, when he met someone new, we could always tell if he liked that person by the first thing he said to them . . . If he told them that he had served on General Eisenhower's staff, we knew he liked them.