

Arthur Schoemaker

Aug 29, 1919 - Oct 30, 2003 BIRTHPLACE: Kansas City, KS

SOLDIER DETAILS

HIGHEST RANK: Private First Class DIVISION: Army, Calvary THEATER OF OPERATION: Pacific SERVED: Apr 17, 1941 -BATTLE: Invasion of Admiralty Islands

HONORED BY: The Dickinson County Heritage Museum and The Eisenhower Foundation

BIOGRAPHY

Arthur Schoemaker was born in Kansas City, KS moved with his family to Abilene, KS in 1929. He attended Stony Hill elementary for a few years and finished grade school at Navarre. Schoemaker completed three years of High School at Chapman Hill and entered the Army, March 17, 1941, enlisting in the cavalry. He was stationed at Fort Riley for thirteen weeks then was sent to Fort Bliss, TX. In July or 1943 he was sent overseas to Australia and was part of the Invasion of Admiralty Islands. The Admiralty Islands campaign (Operation Brewer) was a series of battles in the New Guinea campaign of World War II in which the United States Army's 1st Cavalry Division took the Japanese-held Admiralty Islands. Acting on reports from airmen that there were no signs of enemy activity and the islands might have been evacuated, General Douglas MacArthur accelerated his timetable for capturing the Admiralties and ordered an immediate reconnaissance in force. The campaign began on 29 February 1944 when a force landed on Los Negros, the third-largest island in the group. By using a small, isolated beach where the Japanese had not anticipated an assault, the force achieved tactical surprise, but the islands proved to be far from unoccupied. A furious battle over the islands ensued. In the end, air superiority and command of the sea allowed the Allies to heavily reinforce their position on Los Negros. The 1st Cavalry Division could then overrun the islands. The campaign officially ended on 18 May 1944. Courtesy of Wikipedia.com