



**Charles  
Shaver**

*Army*

## **Charles Shaver**

**Mar 6, 1919 -**

**BIRTHPLACE: Belpre, KS**

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### **SOLDIER DETAILS**

**HIGHEST RANK: Capt.**

**DIVISION: Army, Artillery 1189**

**THEATER OF OPERATION: European**

**SERVED: Apr 1, 1943 - Jul 2, 1947**

**BATTLE: France, Ardennes**

**MILITARY HONORS: Bronze Star, Silver Star,  
Purple Heart with Oak leaf, WW II victory medal,  
EAME Medal with 2 Bronze stars, American  
Campaign**

**HONORED BY: His children; Pam, Charlie, Brad,  
Betty**

**PRISONER OF WAR**

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### **BIOGRAPHY**

David Charles Shaver was born March 6, 1919 to David and Clara (Buhler) Shaver. His name was switched to Charles David later to lessen the confusion of two Davids. The family lived on a farm near Belpre, Kansas. Shaver participated in all the sports at Belpre High School. He graduated and entered the service April 1, 1943 and took Officer Motor School training in Ft. Sill, OK. He left the United States on June 3, 1944, bound for Scotland. Shaver's unit moved through Europe and ended up in Belgium in December of 1944, in the midst of the Battle of the Bulge. In a letter to home, Shaver writes; "Suppose you had a pretty good Christmas. Wish I could have been there. I do know one thing, I hope I will never have to live through another one like my last. Bastogne was having hell bombed out of it and I was less than five hundred yards from the city limits." Shaver goes on to write; " One of the worst enemies right at present is the weather. A regular prairie blizzard has been raging for four days but has slightly abated some today. The snow is better than a foot deep on the level now and many roads are drifted shut. This morning we made an attack and I had to be up all night expected to be called up front with the Infantry. This evening I head that our objective had been carried out. Due to the weather trench foot has been a serious threat. My feet have about lost all feeling but I believe they are somewhat better today. Now that they are warm they hurt like blazes. Our whole unit is sure thankful

that we had the 101st Airborne Division here with us. Too much can't be said about them." Shaver's unit continued fighting pushing on to Germany. On February 28, 1945 he was wounded twice but against fire, continued to direct artillery fire toward a large enemy force. Shaver was wounded a third time, falling into the enemy's hands, and taken prisoner. He was taken to a German hospital, where his wounds were treated. Shaver's parents received a telegram stating Charles Shaver was missing in action. By April of 1945, Shaver was liberated from his captors, and returned to a Hospital in Battle Creek Michigan. Shaver met Margaret Lemieux, a WAC, while both were stationed at Ft. Sheridan, and they married. Shaver returned to Belpre and owned an Ice Cream Shop before moving to Dodge City, Kansas and running a sewing machine store. He finished his working career in sales for Gambles. Margaret and Charles had four children.