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War Department Files
1 LT Brandon B. Bodell
Class 32-42

ID: 01170656

Branch of Service: U.S. Army
Hometown: Plymouth County, MA
Status: DOW 29 Sep 1944



Served with Battery C, 558th Field Artillery Battalion

1st Lt. Brandon B. Bodell was a WWII casualty--killed near Metz, France, during Patton's Third Army push across the Moselle River. His bravery and death are recorded below in the 558th Field Artillery History:

19 September - the whole battalion finally crossed the Moselle. One section from C Battery was attached to the 204th Group for direct lay missions. This gun was commanded by 1st Lieutenant Brandon B. Bodell, who distinguished himself by his gallantry and courage during all these operations.

20 September - Lieutenant Bodell's gun destroyed a (German) 88mm gun in spite of heavy counterbattery fire.

21 September - Lieutenant Bodell's gun scored a hit on the North Fort of the Verdun series, causing internal explosions and blowing two ventilators from the roof.

28 September - 1st Lieutenant Bodell, Sergeant Sanderson, Privates Hall and Vina were all seriously burned when an enemy shell hit the powder at the gun's emplacement. All four died of wounds later in the hospital and all four received the Bronze star posthumously for their actions against the Metz forts.... Lieutenant Bodell's loss was one of the greatest the battalion was to suffer, for his command ability and calm efficiency in the face of the enemy was an inspiration to all... He seemed to have an uncanny knack of inspiring the **men around him...**

Buried in Fern Hill Cemetery, Hanson, Massachusetts