

National Archives & Records Administration War Department Files

2 LT Donald A. Reinicker Class 36-42

ID: O1172615

Branch of Service: U.S. Army

Hometown: Allentown, PA

Status: DOW June 3, 1944



Died of wounds received near Rome, Italy serving with the 938th Field Artillery Battalion

Lt. D. Reinicker Is Seriously Wounded

Lieutenant Donald A. Reinicker, former Allentown High school and Blair academy star swimmer, was seriously wounded in action on June 2 in Italy, according to a brief War Department telegram received yesterday by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman S. Reinicker, 35 N. Fulton St.

On the Anzio beachhead since the original assault at that point of the Italian mainland, Lieutenant Reinicker, with a field artillery unit, is believed to have been wounded during the hard-fought drive on Rome.

Indications that he has been removed to a station hospital was given in the message to his parents that a letter would follow with "his present address."

Volunteering for military service at the close of his junior year at Ohio State in 1941, he received his basic training at Fort Bragg, remained there as an instructor, later moved to Camp Shelby, then Camp Sutton, and sent to officers candidate school at Fort Sill, receiving his commission Oct. 29, 1942. He was at Fort Meade, Md., before going overseas.

He is married to the former Jean E. Greenslade of Bellevue, Ohio, and has a brother Douglas in the Army Air Forces.

*Buried in Grandview Cemetery
Allentown, Pennsylvania*

Son Of Light Co. Mgr. Killed

A War Department telegram received Tuesday by his parents, Norman G. Reinicker, vice-president and general manager of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company, and Mrs. Reinicker, parents of Lt. Donald A. Reinicker, of Allentown, expressed "deepest regrets that your son died on June 3." It was signed by Major General Ullo, adjutant general.

The sorrowful news came just one week after they had received a message that he had been seriously wounded in Italy on June 2.

A graduate of Allentown High and Blair Academy, Blairstown, N. J., Donald Reinicker entered Ohio State University in 1938 to study administration. Upon completing his junior year in 1941, he enlisted in the Army, received his basic training at Fort Bragg, became an instructor there, went to Field Artillery Officers' Candidate School at Fort Silo, Okla., and was commissioned October 29, 1942.

During his scholastic career he set several national swimming records and at one time was rated the second best scholastic backstroke swimmer in the United States. While at Blair he played varsity football and was the New Jersey state track champion in the 440-yard dash.

Lt. Reinicker, who would have been 26 years old in August, is the father of a seven-months old son. His wife and child reside with Mrs. Reinicker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor F. Greenslade, at Bellevue, Ohio.