



John M. Sherry **59-43**

First Lieutenant, U.S. Army

Service # O1180334

**907th Glider Field Artillery Battalion
101st Airborne Division**

Entered the Service from: Ohio

Died: 24-Sep-1944

Buried at: Plot J Row 17 Grave 4

Netherlands American Cemetery

Margraten, Netherlands

Awards: Air Medal, Purple Heart

Hometown: Lucas County, OH

1LT Sherry died when the liaison plane he was flying was brought down by enemy small arms fire



Eyewitness report of the crash:

Anyway about that airplane you said was shot down that Piper Cub. I saw the thing flying over and he seemed awful low to the trees. There are a lot of trees there; these weren't open meadows right around us at this place; kind of a wood sparse like thing. And this highway that we speak of was built up with real deep ditches on each side, maybe 10 or 12-15 feet deep on each side. As you probably know Southern Holland is very low and marshy and of course, you got to have the mud... mud goes with war!

Anyway, I saw this plane dip down into these trees, but some ways off and some smoke going up. So, I got hold of Lt Blake, because he was someone you could talk to and I pointed it out to him and told him what I'd seen.

So we got together a little group there, I think it was a guy named Toucksberry and no doubt Henry Keith. Anyway 4 or 5 of us with Lt. Blake in the lead. We go down in the ditches and what not, make it over to these woods, and finally from the smoke and what not we carefully make our way up to this plane that had crashed. It was probably one of the most gruesome sites that I saw in the whole war, and I saw quite a few. These guys were in a plane that had come down head first through these trees. They were still buckled in their seats, the flames were actually melting... you could see the skin rolling and boiling into a liquid and rolling down their arms. It was really horrible thing but there was nothing we could do for either one as they were already gone. That was one episode that day.



Remains of Lt. Sherry's liaison plane which was brought down by enemy small arms.

