



### Personal info

Full name

**CATER, William G**

Date of birth

**31 December 1916**

Age

**28**

Place of birth

**Westwood, Lassen County, California**

Hometown

**Humboldt County, California**

## Military service

Service number

**19013042**

Rank

**Corporal**

Unit

**F Company,  
2nd Battalion,  
513th Parachute Infantry Regiment,  
17th Airborne Division**

Awards

**Purple Heart**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**24 March 1945**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Margraten**

Plot	Row	Grave
M	8	17

## Immediate family

Members

**Grant Cater (father)**

**Thelma P. (Snow) Cater (mother)**

**Victor Gihlstrom (stepfather)**

**Raymond Cater (brother)**

**Melvin Gihlstrom (half-brother)**

## More information

Cpl William G. Cater enlisted at Fort McDowell, California, on 27 September 1940.

Cpl William G. Cater was aboard a C-46 aircraft in Serial A-5, 313th TCG, 9th TCC scheduled to drop by parachute onto Drop Zone W. Due to a smokescreen and disorientation of the aircraft, his unit was dropped 2.5 miles northeast of the drop zone, east of a railway line and 1.5 miles southwest of Hamminkeln, Germany, where he was killed.

## Photos



Source of information: Tom Verheijden, Peter Schouteten, [Jhttp://www.ww2airborne.us/units/513/513\\_honor.html](http://www.ww2airborne.us/units/513/513_honor.html), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - 1920, 1930 Census / WWII Enlistment Records / U.S. Headstone and Interment Records for U.S. Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil, 17th Airborne Division Historic Report of Operation Varsity, Book: The Last Drop, Operation Varsity March 24-25, 1945 by Stephen L. Wright

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, The Humboldt Times - 25 April 1945