



## Personal info

Full name

**BEST, Ernest Exum**

Date of birth

**14 October 1922**

Age

**22**

Place of birth

**Farmville, Pitt County, North Carolina**

Hometown

**Halifax County, North Carolina**

## Military service

Service number

**33850511**

Rank

**Private First Class**

Unit

**513th Parachute Infantry Regiment,  
17th Airborne Division**

Awards

**Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**26 March 1945**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
D	2	23

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Floyd C. Best (father)**  
**Minnie G. Best (mother)**  
**Otis Best (brother)**  
**Floyd C. Best Jr. (brother)**  
**Minnie R. Best (sister)**  
**Edward Best (brother)**  
**Carrie Best (sister)**  
**Lawrence Best (brother)**

## More information

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Pfc Ernest E Best enlisted in May 1944 and had been overseas since October 1944.

## Photos

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Source of information: Terry Hirsch, WWII Draft Card, 1940 US Census

Photo source: Tom Verheijden, The News and Observer - 6 May 1945