



### Personal info

Full name

**DOWDA, Thomas Butler "Tommy"**

Date of birth

**14 January 1926**

Age

**19**

Place of birth

**Palatka, Putnam County, Florida**

Hometown

**Palatka, Putnam County, Florida**

### Military service

Service number

**34947361**

Rank

**Private First Class**

Unit

**C Company,  
1st 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	22	2

## Immediate family

Members

**Charles S. Dowda (father)**

**Clifford (McGauley) Dowda (mother)**

**Audrey Dowda (sister)**

**Jeanette Dowda (sister)**

**Charles S. Dowda (brother)**

## Plane data

Serial number

**unknown**

Data

**unknown**

## More information

Pfc Thomas B. Dowda enlisted at Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Georgia on 23 May 1944.

He was a passenger of C-46D #44-77595, which was shot down by anti-aircraft fire on the approach to the dropzone and exploded when hitting the ground.

The entire crew of four men was killed and of the 34 passengers, only 10 survived.

## Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) - WWII Draft Cards, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Family Tree / 1940 Census

Photo source: Tom Verheijden, Storiesbehindthestars.org