

T/4 William C. Friday

Location - East-A: R22, C25

William C. Friday

William C. Friday, 67, Oshkosh, died Monday evening in Mercy Medical Center.

He was born Oct. 31, 1916, in Oshkosh, the son of Henry and Amelia Ziebell Friday. He married Adeline Jischkowski, Nov. 17, 1938, in Oshkosh.

Mr. Friday was employed as an electrician at Universal Foundry and then at Medalist Industries until retiring in 1977. An Army veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he was a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

Surviving are his widow; one daughter, Mrs. Thomas (Barbara) Darabosh, Oshkosh; one son, William K., Oshkosh; and five grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. in Konrad-Behlman Funeral Home, the Rev. Thomas Asuma officiating. Burial will be in Peace Lutheran Cemetery.

T/4 William C. Friday, 35, Scott street, was a radio operator with headquarters and service company of the 233rd engineers and re-



ceived the American theater service ribbon, Asiatic - Pacific theater service rib-

bon, Philippine liberation service ribbon with one bronze star, good conduct medal, bronze service arrowhead and three overseas service bars. He entered service March 1, 1943.

Guam Is Pretty, but No One There on War Assignment Has Had Opportunity to Appreciate the Scenery

Although the allies held the winning hand, the allied invasion of Guam was no "pushover," according to a letter received recently from Tech. Fourth Grade (Sergeant) William Friday, of Oshkosh.

Japanese fighting tactics were sly, he wrote, sending out only handfuls of men, whose purpose was based mainly on frightening rather than killing. "Evidently they counted on the fact that while death from bullets is not contagious, anxiety and fear is." This system, according to Technician Friday, was ineffective, as "every Jap who tried this is dead."

At the beach, where the allies made their landing, reefs extended outward into the sea for many yards and after that the going was on several yards of sand and coral beach.

"After a few days near the beach," he wrote, "my unit was ordered up to the opposite side of the island. We had figured on a three-day hike, but, as we encountered no resistance, this was done in one day." The movement of his unit was not easy, he wrote, as there were no roads or trails. "Even the Japs aren't as bad as this country proved to be." Over gummy mud laid a network of brush and sword grass, and in a downpour of rain, his unit tramped "uphill and downhill into semiflooded valleys, across swollen streams and steep cliffs, where we had to use ropes for help." A short distance from their destination, the course was changed, and much-

needed sleep was had in a "flooded hole in the mud."

Many civilians were encountered who displayed happiness regarding their freedom from the Japs. Many of them were used as guides and sources of information, he wrote.

In the jungle areas, resistance was encountered with Jap snipers, although "we got so we paid no attention to their sniping at us in our camp area, as the Japs are notoriously poor shots." The Jap machine guns and rapid fire automatic weapons are effective, he said, but their hand grenades are much smaller than the American grenade, and very unreliable. "They sometimes go off before the Jap can throw it and many of them are duds. Sometimes the Japs tried to sneak up to our foxholes at night, but very seldom succeeded in harming anyone."

"Guam itself," he said, "is rather pretty, more so than Hawaii, but under present conditions one can not appreciate it."

A commendation for Technician Friday was received recently by his wife, in which information was given that the Oshkosh soldier had been "placed on special duty with

the 292nd joint assault signal company for duty with shore fire control parties." Jap paper money and advertisements were sent home as souvenirs.

A radio technician, Sergeant Friday entered the service as an enlistee in March of 1943 and received training at Fort Monroe, Va., Fort Story, Va., and Fort Pierce, Fla., before going overseas in April of this year. He was located for a short time in the Hawaiian islands before going to Guam. He attended Oshkosh High school and prior to entering the service was employed in Oshkosh. His mother, Mrs. Emma Friday, resides at 35 Scott street, and wife and son at 76 Merritt street. Three brothers of Mrs. Friday in service are Petty Officer Second Class Kenneth Jischke, in the Pacific area; Pvt. Russell Jischke, with the medical corps in England; and Corp. Elmer Jischke, with an army ordnance unit in England.

Sept. 14, 1944

