



CORPORAL FRED BERNARD MCGEE



7TH INFANTRY
DIVISION

COMPANY 'K'
3RD BATTALION
17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
7TH INFANTRY DIVISION
UNITED STATES ARMY



17TH INFANTRY
REGIMENT

Fred McGee was born in Steubenville, Ohio, in 1930. He enlisted in the Army in 1951 and served in Korea from January to November 1952.

"Corporal McGee was a Midwesterner, a steel worker and a gunner in one of the first integrated army units of the Korean War," Biden said. "Fred embodied the very best of our country. In June 1952, his unit was attacked. They took casualties. They were ordered to fall back. But Fred refused to leave until he helped every wounded soldier evacuate." Fred had been awarded the Silver Star Medal for his heroism which was upgraded to the Medal Of Honor. At the time of his combat action, McGee was 22 years old. After the Korean War, McGee worked in the steel industry for more than four decades. He died in 2020, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Fred McGee became a Compatriot in the Ebenezer Zane Chapter of the Ohio Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in 2019—his Patriot Ancestor was Henry Dorton (*SAR Patriot #: P-149444*), born in Prince George County Maryland on 10 March 1748. He served with both Maryland and Virginia forces during the American Revolution.

CITATION

Corporal Fred B. McGee distinguished himself by gallantry in action near Tang-Wan-Ni, Korea, on June 16, 1952, in an assault on enemy fortified positions. As gunner on a light machine gun in a weapons squad, Corporal McGee delivered a heavy volume of supporting fire from an exposed position despite intense enemy machine-gun and mortar fire directly on his location. Though forced to move his gun several times, he continued to support the assault and give covering fire to the assault elements of his platoon. When

his squad leader was wounded, together with several other members of his squad, he assumed command and moved the squad even farther forward to a more exposed position in order to deliver neutralizing fire on an enemy machine gun sweeping the other assault platoon with deadly flanking fire. When his machine gunner was mortally wounded, he again took over the gun. On order, he directed his squad to withdraw and voluntarily remained behind to help evacuate the wounded and dead. Though wounded in the face, he he-

roically exposed himself by standing straight up in intense enemy machine-gun and mortar fire while attempting to evacuate the body of the company runner. Forced to abandon the body, he aided a wounded man to be moved to the rear and safely through a huge volume of enemy mortar and artillery fire. The gallantry displayed by Corporal McGee reflects great credit upon himself and is in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.