



## Henry Blackard

July 14, 1918 - May 13, 2011

Obituary for Henry Leon Blackard July 14, 1918 – May 13, 2011 Henry Leon Blackard, of Roswell, NM, passed away May 13, 2011 at the age of 92. He was one of six children born to Cora Ann (Brandon) Blackard and Nealie Randolph Blackard, July 14, 1918, at the family's homestead southwest of Dora, NM. Leon is preceded in death by both of his parents; his wife, Fay; a sister, Flora Neal Blackard; two brothers, Dolphus Randolph Blackard and Don Irvin Blackard; and granddaughters, Debra and Rhonda Douglass. He is survived by one son, Corky Blackard, and his wife, Diane, of Roswell; three granddaughters, Terry and Kimberly; two sisters, Ann Lorene Wright, of Athens, TX, and Joy Ruth Ponder, of Richardson, TX; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews, as well as many other family and friends. Leon began his education in Dora, NM until his sixth grade. His family moved to Portales, NM where he completed his education at Portales High School. He was immediately drafted in the U.S. Army during World War II. He spent his boot camp in Fort Bliss, TX, and after his six-week training, he and a team of seven others were selected and flown to the U.S. East Coast to escort U.S. Army convoys through the East Coast cities for deportation sites. After two years he was deported to Australia, New Guinea, Admiralty Island, then on to the Philippines. Leon received his first Purple Heart recognition at Luzon Point in the southern Philippines. He received his second Purple Heart, but was never honored because he was not in that battle himself, but did rescue his partner and saved his life. Leon is entrusted to Anderson and Bethany Funeral Home

& Crematory, of Roswell, NM. Graveside services will be held Monday, May 16, 2011, 2:00 pm. at South Park Cemetery with Chaplain Cecil Kimberlin officiating. Roswell Veterans Honor Guard will be providing Military Honors. Visitation will be held at Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home Sunday from 5-8 PM.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Henry Blackard*

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December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *My condolences to all the friends and family that mourn the loss of Leon. Although I was a daughter from his past, my prayers and thoughts are with you. Jo Ann Blackard Talley*

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**Jo Ann Talley-biological daughter** - May 24, 2011 at 06:59 PM