



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001  
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

██████████  
Docket No. 1593-25  
Ref: Signature Date

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████████████████████  
████████████████

Dear Petitioner:

This is in reference to your application for correction of your grandfather's naval record pursuant to Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code. After careful and conscientious consideration of relevant portions of your grandfather's naval record and your application, the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) found the evidence submitted insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. Consequently, your application has been denied.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on its merits. A three-member panel of the Board, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 3 June 2024. The names and votes of the panel members will be furnished upon request. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of the Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of your grandfather's naval record, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, and an advisory opinion (AO) provided by Navy Personnel Command (PERS 312) on 21 July 2025. Although you were provided an opportunity to respond to the AO, you chose not to do so.

Your grandfather, hereinafter referred to as service member (SM), enlisted in the Navy Reserves and began a period of active duty on 28 July 1942. On 28 September 1945, SM was honorably discharged by reason of convenience of the government.

The Board carefully weighed all factors in SM's case, including your desire for SM to be awarded three Purple Heart Medals, the American Campaign Medal, and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal w/1 bronze campaign star.<sup>1</sup> The Board considered your

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<sup>1</sup> The Board noted that Navy Personnel Command determined that SM was entitled to both the American Campaign Medal and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal w/1 bronze campaign star. A DD Form 215 was previously issued on 18 July 2025 showing SM's entitlement to both awards.

assertions that SM served at sea in European, African, and American defense campaigns from September 1942 to December 1944.

As part of the Board's review, it considered the AO. The AO stated in pertinent part:

There is no evidence to support the awarding of the Purple Heart. Substantiating evidence must be provided to verify the wound was the result of hostile action, required treatment by medical personnel, and the medical treatment must have been made a matter of official record. Therefore, his Navy medical records are required for review by a higher authority to determine his eligibility.

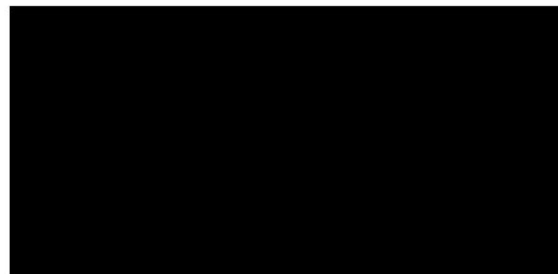
After thorough review, the Board concluded these potentially mitigating factors were insufficient to warrant relief. In making this finding, the Board concurred with the AO that there is no medical evidence in SM's record indicating that he is entitled to be awarded the Purple Heart Medal. As explained in the AO, since there is no medical evidence to support the awarding of the Purple Heart Medal, substantiating medical evidence from his Navy medical record must be submitted for review<sup>2</sup>. Accordingly, given the totality of the circumstances, the Board determined that your request does not merit relief.

Notwithstanding the Board's findings in this case, they offered their deepest condolences for your loss and their sincere appreciation for your grandfather's selfless and faithful service to this country.

You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new matters, which will require you to complete and submit a new DD Form 149. New matters are those not previously presented to or considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

8/29/2025



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<sup>2</sup> You may submit any substantiating military medical records to Navy Personnel Command, Records Analysis Branch (PERS 312), ██████████ Bldg. 769, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055.