

NAVY CROSS



ANTHONY J. STEA

Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
2nd Battalion, 4th Marines (Reinforced), First Provisional Marine Brigade
Guam, Marianas, 28 July 1944
Born: Chicago, Illinois
Entered service at: New York, New York

Citation:

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the Navy Cross to Anthony J. Stea (472408), Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps (Reserve), for extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty while serving as a Member of a Machine Gun Squad of the Second Battalion, Fourth Marines (Reinforced), First Provisional Marine Brigade, Third Amphibious Corps, during action against enemy Japanese forces on the Island of Guam in the Marianas Group, 28 July 1944. Seriously wounded in the leg when the rest of his machine gun squad was wiped out by a direct hit from enemy artillery, Private First Class Stea remained at his post to load and fire his weapon. Sustaining an additional serious wound a short time later, he continued raking the Japanese with effective fire until he collapsed from loss of blood. By inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy at a critical period, he contributed materially to the defeat of the Japanese force in this action, and his great personal valor and devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon Private First Class Stea and the United States Naval Service.