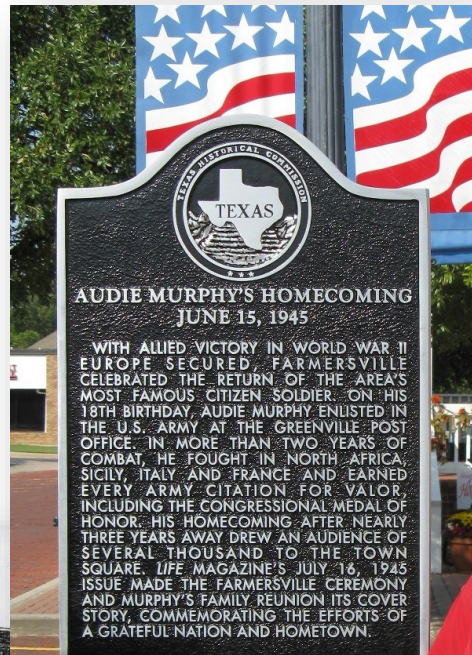


JOIN US FOR AUDIE MURPHY DAY

Fourth Saturday in June

The photo below shows Audie Murphy's homecoming to Farmersville in June of 1945. Today a historical marker on this location commemorates his homecoming.

Audie Murphy Day is an annual commemoration of this homecoming that seeks to celebrate our local veterans while perpetuating the memory of Audie Murphy.



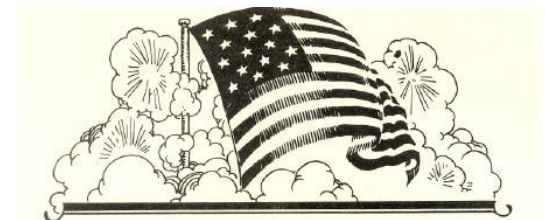
FIRST LIEUTENANT

AUDIE LEON MURPHY

June 20, 1924

May 28, 1971

On the morning of July 9, 1942, nineteen days after his eighteenth birthday, Audie Murphy left home in Farmersville, Texas, hitchhiked to Greenville where he caught a bus to Dallas, and enlisted in the U.S. Army. In July 1945, he returned to Farmersville as the most decorated hero in America's history. Audie was awarded every medal for valor our country gives, including the Congressional Medal of Honor.



MEDALS AWARDED TO

AUDIE MURPHY

World War II Victory Medal

Army of Occupation
With German Clasp

Armed Forces Reserve Medal

Combat Infantryman Badge

Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar

Expert Badge with Bayonet Bar

French Fourragere
In colors of the Croix de Guerre

French Legion of Honor, Grade of Chevalier

French Croix de Guerre
With Silver Star

French Croix de Guerre with Palm

Medal of Liberated France

Medal of Honor

Distinguished Service Cross

Silver Star
With first Oak Leaf Cluster

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star
With "V" Device and First Oak Leaf Cluster

Purple Heart
With Second Oak Leaf Cluster

U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal

Good Conduct Medal

Distinguished Unit Emblem
with First Oak Leaf Cluster

American Campaign Medal

European-African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

Belgian Croix de Guerre 1940 Palm

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION

Rank & Organization: Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army, Company B., 15th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division

Place and Date: Near Holtzwihr France,
26 January 1945

Entered Service at: Dallas, Texas

Birth: Hunt County, near Kingston, Texas

G.O. No. 65, 9 August 1945.

Citation: 2d Lt. Murphy commanded Company B, which was attached by 6 tanks and waves of infantry. 2d Lt. Murphy ordered his men to withdraw to prepared positions in a woods, while he remained forward at his command post and continued to give fire directions to the artillery by telephone. Behind him, to his right, 1 of our tank destroyers received a direct hit and began to burn. Its crew withdrew to the woods. 2d Lt. Murphy continued to direct artillery fire which killed large numbers of the advancing enemy infantry. With the enemy tanks abreast of his position, 2d Lt. Murphy climbed on the burning tank destroyer, which was in danger of blowing up at any moment, and employed its .50 caliber machine gun against the enemy. He was alone and exposed to German fire from 3 sides, but his deadly fire killed dozens of Germans and caused their infantry attack to waver. The enemy tanks, losing infantry support, began to fall back.

For an hour the Germans tried every available weapon to eliminate 2d Lt. Murphy, but he continued to hold his position and wiped out a squad which was trying to creep up unnoticed on his right flank. Germans reached as close as 10 yards, only to be mowed down by his fire. He received a leg wound, but ignored it and continued the single-handed fight until his ammunition was exhausted. He then made his way to his company, refused medial attention, and organized his company in a counterattack which forced the Germans to withdraw. His directing of artillery fire wiped out many of the enemy; he killed or wounded about 50. 2d Lt. Murphy's indomitable courage and his refusal to give an inch of ground saved his company from possible encirclement and destruction, and enabled it to hold the woods which had been the enemy's objective.



Each year in June, Farmersville Main Street celebrates Audie Murphy Day. This popular event honors our "Hometown Hero" Audie Murphy, as well as all of our local veterans.

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