"For God and Country"

S1C Charles A. Youngblood (NAVY)

Ship: USS Stockham (DD-683)

Dates of Service: 4 Aug 1943 to 3 Mar 1946

Location of Service: Pacific Campaign

EIGHT OF CREW WITH CHARLES YOUNGBLOOD GET PURPLE HEARTS

U.S.S. Stockham
In Port

Hello Folks:

Will try to write you a few lines tonight before the show. We had a good show last night and we'll have a good one tonight. We haven't had any mail for a long time now, the last letter I had from you had the piece out of the paper about Donald Williams. Mom, I don't guess I'll ever be able to see him for I don't get on land very often. I have been on land about twice since I have been out at sea and it was just sand and rocks.

We just got word we can tell you some of the battles we have had part in and some of the places we have been. Here they are:

1. We were at Pearl Harbor.
2. Kwagelein.
3. Participated in the Battle of Saipan.
4. First Philippine Sea Battle.
5. Eniwetok (in Marshalls).
6. Operated in support of Luzon invasion.
7. First raid on Manila.
8. Operated in support of Leyte invasion.
9. Battle of Formosa.
10. Second Philippine Sea Battle
11. Guam.
12. Operated in support of Palau invasion.
13. In the first raid on Indo-China and China coast.
14. Took part in the first carrier raid on Tokyo and during Feb.
15. Operated in support of landing and capture of Iwo Jima.
16. We destroyed a Jap ship during course of raid on Tokyo.

When we were in battle some of the boys patted the shells and said this is for so and so, their buddies or brothers. So, all I could think of was old Junior Braddy; I gave them some for him. If they hear from him he sure and let me know.

Tell Susie I saw some sights out here better than any at a Fourth of July Celebration. When some of the Jap planes hit the water they made a big fire. It's pretty at night but it scares you, too, for you don't know if they are going to get you next or not.

Tell Bud Feather I hope he likes the Navy for I'm not sorry that I got that part.

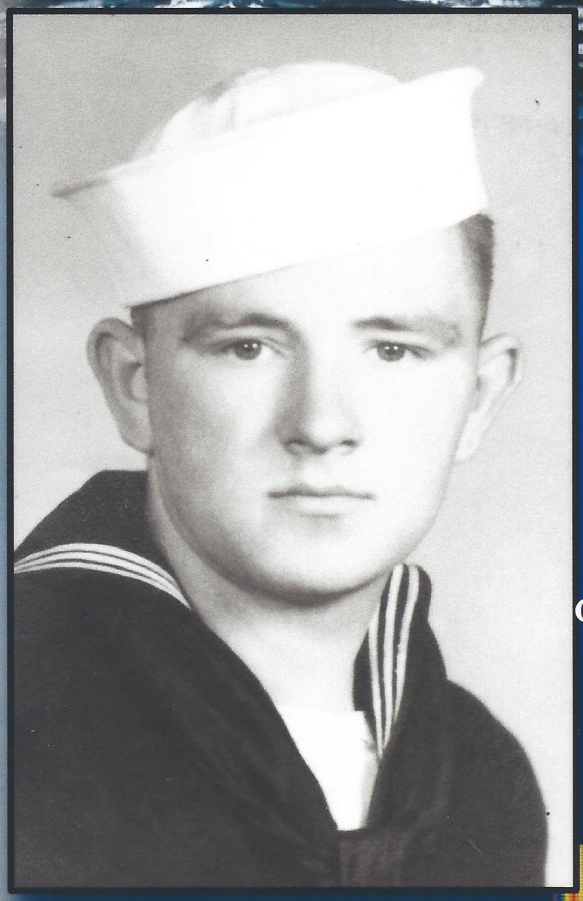
These Japs aren't too bad. I guess Glen doesn't like his new place too good but it's a lot better now than when I was there. It was a little nasty then—a lot of dead Japs in the water and we got one Jap prisoner out of the water. He had been swimming around for a long time. He wouldn't try to talk to us.

Well, Mom, you keep praying for me and I'll keep cussing and fighting these yellow Japs, and maybe some day I will be back.

They gave six of our crew the Purple Heart this morning and two more that weren't here to get theirs.

I got a couple of boxes from Elsie. I'll close now.

Charles Youngblood, S 1/c
U.S.S. Stockham



Pacific Battles

Battle of Saipan,
Support of Leyte Invasion,
Iwo Jima, Palau Invasion,
Luzon Invasion,
First Raid on Manila,
First Philippine Sea Battle,
Eniwetok-Battle of Formosa,
Guam, 1st Raid on Indo China
& China Coast