

# WE REMEMBER

June 6, 2024, will mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day, when American forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, signaling the beginning of the end of World War II. As we approach this significant milestone, we not only remember the incredible courage and sacrifice of those who fought during World War II, but also that of the millions affected by the atrocities of the Holocaust and its ripple effect for generations.

*It is our honor to tell the stories on the following pages.*

## Zachary's Sole Casualty: Honoring PFC John A. McHugh's Legacy & Valor

Private First Class John A. McHugh was the only WWII casualty for the Zachary Community. At only 20 years old, he was killed in action on April 18, 1945, near Mount Imugan in the Philippine Islands. His body was interred in the Fort McKinley U.S. Military Cemetery at Manila in accordance with his desire to be "buried near his buddies."

The entire McHugh family was shocked and saddened by the death of their fine soldier and kin. Realizing that his body would never be returned to native soil, they decided to erect a large monument in the family cemetery to honor his memory.

The impressive monument was dedicated in 1946 at the Shaw-McHugh Cemetery, 6590 Shaw Cemetery Rd., off of Lower Zachary Road, which was established in 1787.



*Left: PFC John McHugh, Zachary's sole casualty in World War II.*

*Right: Document in honor of PFC McHugh, signed by President Harry Truman.*

