

Graudson of S. H. Nelson

Capt. Morlan Nelson Of Fargo Among N. D. Men Decorated

For gallantry in action and tactical skill, Capt. Morlan W. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norris H. Nelson, 341 Eighth av S, has received the Silver Star. The decoration has also been given to T. Sgt. Paul Lovgren of Edmore with the Sixth armored division and three North Dakotans with the 96th division on Okinawa: 1st Lt. Harry J. Kline of Minct, 1st Lt. Albert Strand of Mohall and PFC. Andrew M. Salseg of Glenburn. Gen. Joseph Stilwell, 10th army commander, presented the award to men of the 96th.

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Capt. Nelson, whose wife resides in Burlington, Iowa, is assigned with the 87th infantry, 10th mountain division. At present he is convalescing at Livorno, Italy, from wounds received April 15 and writes: "I can tell you now, without your worrying too much, of several other close calls the day I was wounded. A machine gunner dug up about 30 yards of dirt trying to get Lt. Hawk and me when crossing a draw while leading the attack. My dog tag chain was shot



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off my neck and they found it in my boot at the hospital. The same day a 170 mm artillery shell landed a couple feet from me but didn't go off."

Previously awarded the Bronze Star, Capt. Nelson received the following citation with the Silver Star: "On March 5, 1945, near Castel D' Aiana, Italy, Capt. Nelson was leading his company which was ordered to capture an enemy held hill. Seeing his chosen route was too heavily defended, he moved ahead through the barrage and reconnoitered an alternate route. He then led his men in a move which flanked the enemy defenses and enabled the battalion to easily mop up the immediate resistance. Continuing, the company advanced through a draw until they were again met by a hail of fire.

"Because of the terrain, radio communication was impossible. Capt. Nelson exposed himself in order to contact his wiremen, led them in laying a communication line to a vantage point which was open to hostile observation and fire but from which he was able to direct counterbattery shelling. He again moved ahead and spotted several enemy strong points. Returning, he organized groups and led them to point out their missions. He then advanced with the rest of his company to assault and capture their objective. During the entire action, Capt. Nelson displayed extreme courage and aggressiveness in exposing himself to the worst of the fire in order to expedite his company's advance and his gallant actions and tactical skill spirited his men forward to accomplish their mission with a minimum of casualties."

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Pvt. Dale Nelson Memorial Sunday

Memorial service for Pvt. Dale