

World War II

Born - March 23, 1923 South Boston, Massachusetts

Entered Service - April 11, 1943 Dedham, Massachusetts



Sgt. Michael J. Callanan
U.S. Army Air Corps
Age 21

Michael moved to Canton with his four brothers and three sisters in 1929 and lived at 701 Washington Street (over Moro's Meat Market). He entered St. John School as a second grader and remained there through High School. After Graduating in 1937, he worked for A&P on Washington Street, Schofield Cement Forms and Fore River Shipyard until he was inducted into the Army April 11, 1943. Callanan was assigned to the 451st Bomber Group 724th Bomber Squadron of the famous 15th Air Force as a B24 nose gunner. On August 23rd, after more than 20 missions, his plane was damaged over Germany and all the crew had to parachute out. Although they bailed out safely, three members (including Michael) were shot to death on the ground. His body didn't return home until August 26, 1948 to a funeral Mass at St. John's Church.

Date of Death - August 23, 1944..... Germany

Buried - St. Mary's Cemetery Canton, Massachusetts