

## *World War II*

*Born – August 27, 1922 ..... Canton, Massachusetts*

*Entered Service- December 26, 1942 ..... Canton, Massachusetts*



**Cpl. Arthur W. Thomas**  
**U.S. Army**  
**Age 23**

Arthur, his two brothers and two sisters were born into one of the original Canton families. The family emigrated from Wales shortly after the town was established in 1797 and resided on Mechanic and Messenger streets. He was named after his uncle who had died in WWI. Arthur attended the Crane School and one year at Canton High before going to Norfolk Agricultural School. After graduation, he worked for Eastern States Farmers Exchange in Brockton until he was inducted into the Army and sent to Texas for military medical training. Thomas went overseas and was attached to the 217<sup>th</sup> Artillery (AAA) as a medic. He was on route from Stienheim to Jena, Germany in support of General Patton's Third Army when his convoy crossed a badly bombed bridge. The bridge collapsed, dropping Arthur and others to their death.

*Date of Death - August 16, 1945 ..... Germany*

*Buried – ..... Canton, Massachusetts*