

Bayak, Stephen J.

Receive Telegram Today Telling Of Stephen Bayak's Death in Jap Prisoner of War Camp in 1942

OCT 12 1945

After more than three years with no word of the fate of her son, Mrs. Mary A. Bayak of 1616 East Second Street received a telegram this morning from Edward F. Witsell, acting for the Adjutant General of the Army, informing her that the young man, Pvt. Stephen J. Bayak, formerly reported missing in action on May 7, 1942, had died April 30, 1942 while a prisoner of war of the Japanese. The telegram reads:

Dies In Prison Camp



PVT. STEPHEN J. BAYAK

"I am deeply distressed to inform you report just received states your son Private Stephen J. Bayak who was previously reported missing in action seven May nineteen forty-two died while a prisoner of war of the Japanese government. The Secretary of War asks that I express his deep sympathy in your loss and his regret that unavoidable circumstances made necessary the unusual lapse of time in reporting your son's death to you. Confirming letter follows."

Pvt. Bayak was born in Bethlehem October 20, 1913. He attended Bethlehem Township schools and served in the United States Army over 8 years. He was sent to the Philippine Islands in February, 1941.

He is survived by his father, Joseph Bayak, 78 years of age; his mother; four sisters, Rose, Theresa, Ethel and Frances, all of Bethlehem; three brothers, Michael of Bridgeport, Conn.; John Bayak, USN stationed in California; and Louis, at home.

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