### **Lieutenant Pratchett: A Valorous Soldier of the 30th Infantry Division in World War II**

Lieutenant Pratchett's military service began in 1942, when he was drafted into the United States Army. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia, and was assigned to the 30th Infantry Division. The 30th Infantry Division was a highly decorated unit that fought in some of the most intense battles of World War II, including the Battle of Mortain, the Battle of the Bulge, and the liberation of Nazi concentration camps.

Lieutenant Pratchett arrived in Europe in 1944, and was immediately thrust into combat. He fought in the Battle of Mortain, which was a key battle in the Allied invasion of Normandy. The 30th Infantry Division played a major role in the battle, and Lieutenant Pratchett was awarded the Purple Heart for his wounds.



Lieutenant R.M.Pratchett M.B.E and his Experiences during World War II. Member of the 30th Assault Unit under Ian Fleming: by his daughter Geraldine Pratchett-

**Hultkrantz** by Geraldine Pratchett-Hultkrantz

**★** ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5 Language : English : 12303 KB File size Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 108 pages Lending : Enabled

After the Battle of Mortain, the 30th Infantry Division was sent to the Ardennes Forest to participate in the Battle of the Bulge. The Battle of the Bulge was one of the most brutal battles of the war, and the 30th Infantry Division was heavily engaged. Lieutenant Pratchett was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism in the battle.

In 1945, the 30th Infantry Division was assigned to liberate Nazi concentration camps. Lieutenant Pratchett was part of the team that liberated the Dachau concentration camp. The experience of liberating the camp was a profound one for Lieutenant Pratchett, and he never forgot the horrors that he witnessed.

Lieutenant Pratchett was discharged from the Army in 1946. He returned home a decorated war hero, but he was also deeply affected by his experiences in the war. He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder for many years, and he struggled to adjust to civilian life.

Despite his struggles, Lieutenant Pratchett was a dedicated husband and father. He married his wife, Mary, in 1947, and they had three children. He worked as a teacher for many years, and he was active in his community. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

Lieutenant Pratchett died in 2000 at the age of 78. He was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. He is remembered as a valiant soldier who served his country with distinction. His story is a

testament to the resilience and sacrifice of those who served in World War

### **Lieutenant Pratchett's Medals and Decorations**

\* Purple Heart \* Bronze Star \* Combat Infantryman Badge \* European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with three bronze service stars \* World War II Victory Medal

### **Additional Information**

\* Lieutenant Pratchett was awarded the Purple Heart for his wounds in the Battle of Mortain. \* He was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroism in the Battle of the Bulge. \* He was part of the team that liberated the Dachau concentration camp. \* He suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder for many years after the war. \* He was a dedicated husband and father. \* He worked as a teacher for many years. \* He was active in his community. \* He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. \* He died in 2000 at the age of 78. \* He was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.



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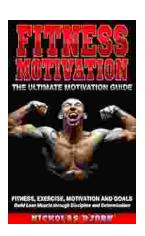
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