

MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Proudly Honors



ORVILLE ALLEN HUTCHISON

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (E-3)

JUNE 14, 1941 – NOVEMBER 21, 1943

KILLED IN ACTION ON NOVEMBER 21, 1943

as

PURPLE HEART PATRIOT

JULY 2025

Ginger Piatt, Honoring Her Uncles's Service and Sacrifice

Sponsored by: Hannah Hull Chapter, NSDAR



Orville Allen Hutchison was born in Chillicothe, Missouri, on April 10, 1923, and was raised in Brookfield, Missouri, along with his two sisters and a brother. On June 14, 1941, Orville enlisted in the United States Marine Corps; he was 19 years old.

Private First Class (PFC) Hutchison served with the King Company, 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines in the Guadalcanal Campaign in the Solomon Islands and the Battle of Tarawa fought at Tarawa Atoll in the Gilbert Islands.

The Battle of Tarawa, between the United States and Japan, commenced on Saturday, November 20, 1943. When the 3rd Battalion, which included the King Company, began heading toward Beach Red 3 to support the heavily engaged Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 2-8, the Landing Craft Vehicle Personnel (LCVP), also known as a Higgins Boat, slammed into a coral reef and stopped. The ramps went down and the Marines aboard jumped out into the water over their heads. Some drowned, while the others faced heavy machine gun fire and sniper fire for the rest of the day.

PFC Hutchison survived the first day of his first battle, but unfortunately, not on his second day. He succumbed to gunshot wounds on Sunday, November 21, 1943. PFC Orville Hutchison was declared a casualty of World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart. His remains were unidentified for over 80 years until the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) matched his DNA against the DNA of family members.

PFC Hutchison's remains were returned to his hometown of Brookfield, Missouri, on Monday, September 9, 2024, and laid to rest at Rose Hill Cemetery, Brookfield, with full United States Marine Corps funeral honors conducted by the United States Marine Corps.