# Pvt. Harvey Robitshek Background

Pvt. Harvey P. Robitshek

ASN: 37581101

Final Unit: G Co 315th Infantry Regiment 79th Infantry Division

KIA: 13 November 1944

Buried Temp: 22 June 1945 Andilly (after isolated burial Ancerville, France).

Harvey’s cousin Irving Robitshek acted as military escort once his urn reached the U.S.

# Background and Timeline

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| **1943** |  |  |  |
| 2 November 1943 |  | Harvey enters active duty with the Army.[[1]](#footnote-1) | 249 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **1944** |  |  |  |
| 13 November 1944 |  | Harvey is listed as Missing In Action.[[2]](#footnote-2) | 255 |
| 13 November 1944 |  | Harvey is Killed In Action. He is first reported Missing In Action until the War Department received information he was KIA on 13 Nov 1944.[[3]](#footnote-3) | 249 |
| 7 December 1944 |  | Harvey’s father notified by War Department of Harvey’s MIA status.[[4]](#footnote-4) | 255 |
| **1945** |  |  |  |
| 11 February 1945 |  | War Department receives information that Harvey is not MIA but KIA as of 13 November 1944.[[5]](#footnote-5) | 249 |
| 21 June 1945 | Ancerville, France | Harvey’s remains are disinterred from an isolated grave in Ancerville, France. Harvey was buried by a schoolteacher, M Henry Theibaut, in an unmarked grave.[[6]](#footnote-6) | 38-39 |
| 22 June 1945 | Andilly | Harvey was temporarily buried in Andilly cemetery at 1400 hours.  His personal effects were listed as: 810 French Francs (the final list of personal effects showed only 410 French Francs).  1 Pay Book  1 Billfold  1 Trinket  Note: Personal effects held by this unit. To be forwarded to QM Depot Q-290, Personnel Effects and Baggage Depot, APO 513.[[7]](#footnote-7) | 247-248 |
| 13 August 1945 |  | Harvey’s personal effects were inventoried and prepared for shipment to the U.S. to be received at the Effects Depot in Kansas City, Missouri.  These consist of:  1 Soldier’s Pay Book  1 Wallet  1 GI Drivers License  1 Hebrew Scroll  1 letter from St. John’s Military Academy  410 French Francs ($8.27)  1 Identification Bracelet  Money was turned into the 39th ED for conversion and payment to the family.[[8]](#footnote-8) | 131 & 302 (duplicate) |
| 1 September 1945 |  | Personal effects transported by truck to the ED.[[9]](#footnote-9) | 131 & 302 |
| **1946** |  |  |  |
| 5 January 1946 | Army Effects Bureau, Kansas City, MO | Summary Court Martial to determine if Harvey had any outstanding debts before $8.27 was paid to his family.[[10]](#footnote-10) | 304 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **1947** |  |  |  |
| 30 July 1947 |  | George receives correspondence requesting his choice for the disposition of the remains of Harvey. George requests the remains are cremated.[[11]](#footnote-11) | 31-33 |
| **1948** |  |  |  |
| 15 July 1948 | Andilly Cemetery – Lay St. Remy, France | Harvey is to be disinterred from his second temporary grave at Andilly, Plot M Row 1 Grave 5, and cremated. He was buried in military clothing and his remains had no fractures evident.[[12]](#footnote-12) | 1-4 |
| 16 September 1948 | Andilly Cemetery, Lay St. Remy, France | Harvey’s remains were identified again and casketed in preparation for the move to USMC St-Avold, France.[[13]](#footnote-13) | 1-4 |
| 19 October 1948 | Andilly Cemetery – Lay St. Remy, France | Harvey’s remains were removed from casket and placed in a transfer box.[[14]](#footnote-14) | 1-4 |
| 17 November 1948 | USMC St-Avold, France | Harvey’s remains were shipped by rail to CIC Casketing Point, Antwerp, Belgium. Received January 1949.[[15]](#footnote-15) | 1-4 |
| **1949** |  |  |  |
| 7 January 1949 | St. Gilles Cemetery, Municipal Crematorium, Brussels, Belgium | Harvey’s remains were cremated.[[16]](#footnote-16) | 23 |
| 15 February 1949 | AGRC Antwerp, Belgium | Harvey’s remains were placed on the USAT Barney Kirschbaum for return to the U.S.[[17]](#footnote-17) | 1-4 |
| 3 March 1949 |  | Telegram from QMC re: Urn en route to U.S. Changes requested within 48 hours otherwise they will stand.[[18]](#footnote-18) | 22 |
| 10 March 1949 | NYPE | NY Port of Embarkation received Harvey’s remains.[[19]](#footnote-19) | 1-4 |
| 11 March 1949 | NYPE | Harvey’s remains were shipped to DC08 and received by 14 March 1949.[[20]](#footnote-20) | 1-4 |
| 24 March 1949 |  | Letter from QM to George re: urn inscription. Letter is specific that it will be at government expense. Included an envelope which required no postage.[[21]](#footnote-21) | 19 |
| 29 March 1949 |  | Letter from George to QM re: urn inscription. Stated OK and sorry for delay after being gone.[[22]](#footnote-22) | 18 |
| 31 March 1949 |  | Letter from George to QM re: Referring to letter of March 24 1949. Confused by message Mar 3 1949 about urn delivery accompanied by Lt. Irving Robitshek. Irving is being transferred out of Chicago April 1 so someone else will be necessary to bring remains.[[23]](#footnote-23) | 16 |
| 4 April 1949 |  | Letter from AGR Div to Archer Jewelers in Chicago re: engraving of urn of Harvey in presence of military escort. Specific instructions as to how the urn should be inscribed.[[24]](#footnote-24) | 14 |
| 4 April 1949 |  | Letter from QM to George Robitshek regarding the transfer of his son’s remains after Passover. Remains would be delivered 26 April 1949.[[25]](#footnote-25) | 15 |
| 6 April 1949 |  | Letter from George to QM re: not having Irving act as escort so there is no expense to him.  Pencil in letter states Escort will be brought in from Ft. Sheridan and no expense.[[26]](#footnote-26) | 12 |
| 21 April 1949 |  | Telegram to George re: arrival of urn via train to Minneapolis arriving Wednesday 27 April 1949 at 8:05 a.m. Irving Robitshek signed for receipt of remains.[[27]](#footnote-27) | 35 |
| 27 April 1949 |  | Irving Robitshek signed for receipt of remains on this date.[[28]](#footnote-28) | 35 |

1. Report of Death dated 15 February 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Battle Casualty Report dated 13 November 1944. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Report of Death dated 15 February 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Battle Casualty Report dated 13 November 1944. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Report of Death dated 15 February 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Checklist for Disinterment dated 21 June 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Report of burial dated 22 June 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Inventory Form (personal effects) dated 13 Aug 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Inventory Form (personal effects) dated 13 Aug 1945. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Summary Court Martial dated 5 January 1946. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Request for Disposition of Remains dated 30 July 1947. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Certificate of Cremation dated 7 Jan 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Telegram to George from QM dated 3 March 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Disinterment Directive dated 15 July 1948. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Letter from QM to George dated 24 March 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Letter from George to QM dated 29 March 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. Letter from George to QM dated 31 March 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. Letter from AGR to Archer Jewelers Chicago dated 4 April 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. Letter from Capt. Charles M. Odenwalder to George Robitshek dated 4 April 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. Letter from George to QM dated 6 April 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. Telegram to George dated 21 April 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. Telegram to George dated 21 April 1949, signed 27 April 1949. Individual Deceased Personnel File for Harvey P. Robitshek, ASN 37581101. National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Missouri. [↑](#footnote-ref-28)