

MEDAL OF HONOR  
(POSTHUMOUS)

Captain William W. Galt, 0446805, Infantry, Army of the United States. For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty on 29 May 1944 in the vicinity of Villa Crocetta, Italy. Captain Galt, Battalion S-3, at a particularly critical period following two unsuccessful attacks by his battalion, of his own volition went forward and ascertained just how critical the situation was. He volunteered, at the risk of his life, to personally lead the battalion against the objective. When the lone remaining tank destroyer refused to go forward Captain Galt jumped on the tank destroyer and ordered it to precede the attack. As the tank destroyer moved forward, followed by a company of riflemen, Captain Galt manned the 30 calibre machine gun in the turret of the tank destroyer, located and directed fire on an enemy 77mm anti-tank gun and destroyed it. Nearing the enemy positions, Captain Galt stood fully exposed in the turret, ceaselessly firing his machine gun and tossing hand grenades into the enemy zig-zag system of trenches despite the hail of sniper and machine gun bullets ricocheting off the tank destroyer. As the tank destroyer moved forward Captain Galt so maneuvered it that 40 of the enemy were trapped in one trench. When they refused to surrender Captain Galt pressed the trigger of the machine gun and dispatched every one of them. A few minutes later an 88mm shell struck the tank destroyer and Captain Galt fell mortally wounded across his machine gun. He had personally killed 40 Germans and wounded many more. Captain Galt pitted his judgment and superb courage against overwhelming odds, exemplifying the highest measures of devotion to his country and the finest traditions of the United States Army.

Date of award: 4 January 1945  
Born: Geyser, Mont., Dec. 19, 1919  
Res. at appt.: Great Falls, Mont.  
Widow: Patricia A. Galt, Stanford, Mont.

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19 March 45  
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