

Barney Mayrsohn, Pfc

424

Stalag IV-B (4-B)

The star of the show was 96-year-old World War II veteran and prisoner of war Barney Mayrsohn, from Quayside, Florida, a recipient of two Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star and a Combat Infantry Badge.

At the age of 21 Mayrsohn tried to enlist after Pearl Harbor but was rejected. "A year later, in order to get in, I had to masquerade my broken shoulder," said Mayrsohn. "When they asked me to raise both hands, I raised my right hand and scratched my back with my left hand."

On December 16, 1944, while stationed with the 423rd Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division in the Ardennes, Mayrsohn and his fellow soldiers were attacked by German forces in the Battle of the Bulge.

Captured and imprisoned for almost six months until he was freed by Russian forces, Mayrsohn shared some gruesome details of his days in the Stalag 4-B prison camp. "I was 150 pounds when I went in. I was 100 pounds six months later. All we were given was maggots and water to eat.

source: Facebook 11/16/2019



Page last revised
James D. West
www.IndianaMilitary.org