



**Charles  
Shay**  
*Army*

## **Charles Shay**

**BIRTHPLACE:** Maine

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### **SOLDIER DETAILS**

**DIVISION:** Army

**THEATER OF OPERATION:** European

**MILITARY HONORS:** The Silver Star, The French  
Legion of Honor

**HONORED BY:** The Eisenhower Foundation

**PRISONER OF WAR**

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### **BIOGRAPHY**

Charles Shay was born in 1923 and grew up as a Native American on Indian Island in Maine. He was part of the Penobscot tribe. April, 1943, at the age of 19, he was drafted into the Army. His job was to be an Army medic. Shay trained hard and would be part of the D-Day landings. He received the Silver Star for saving many soldiers from drowning on June 6. He moved through Normandy with this troop and then was sent to eastern France and Germany. Shay was taken prisoner March 1945 but liberated a few weeks later. After the war, there were few jobs or well paying jobs for an Indian man so Shay reenlisted. In 2018 he moved to France. He will be attending the 80th anniversary ceremonies in Normandy. Courtesy of AP, and The History Channel.