



SGT. MERRILL IS LAID TO REST

Sgt. Hairman M. Merrill, one of the sixteen Ecusta veterans to give his life in World War II, was laid to rest Sunday afternoon, July 25, in the cemetery of his home church, Little River Baptist.

The high esteem with which young Merrill was held was shown by the large crowd attending the funeral—a crowd which overflowed into the church yard. He was employed in Champagne February 7, 1941, as a gumming operator and left for military service December 24, 1942. He was killed in England, April 17, 1945.

The impressive service was in charge of the Brevard V.F.W. Rev. John Anderson, Hairman's pastor when he entered service, read several familiar verses of comfort from the scriptures and after a prayer, the East Hendersonville quartet sang, "God's Way Is The Best Way." Rev. Sherman Patterson paid additional tribute to his life. The quartet concluded the service in the church with the song, "Under His Wing."

Rev. Walter P. Baldwin, pastor of the Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian church and chaplain of the local V.F.W., was in charge of the graveside service. The honor guard fired the customary three volleys and Rev. Baldwin presented Mrs. Merrill with the flag. The sounding of taps concluded the service.

The lovely flowers which were banked high around the grave were tokens of friendship and admiration of Hairman's host of friends. Many folks from Ecusta were present, several of them taking part in the service.

Sgt. Merrill was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Merrill and he is survived by two sisters—Mrs. Miriam Rice of the Champagne Office and Mrs. Syble McCrary of Little River whose husband is employed in the Machine Room.