

## Found soldier's family recognized

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge  
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Family members of World War II soldier Lawrence Burkett were recognized by Cully Tarleton last week at a special presentation in West Jefferson.

Burkett, killed in action on December 11, 1944, was finally laid to rest in Ashe County last month. Burkett's remains were found last year near the France-Germany border and DNA testing led to his identification. Burkett was drafted when he was 28- and left behind a wife, two daughters and a son. While his children survive, his wife, Dora, died without knowing his whereabouts. Tarleton drafted a resolution recognizing Burkett as a "true American hero and patriot." Tarleton hand delivered copies to Burkett's children, Kathy Gentry, Gladys Shatley and Bill Burkett last Friday.