

Ashe County's Lawrence Burkett left for war in 1944. His remains were not found until last year in a forgotten trench in Germany.

Confirmed through DNA testing, those remains should be sent to Fort Bragg, then to Jefferson next month in time for a military funeral at Friendship Baptist Church where the soldier will finally be laid to rest next to his wife, Dora, who, according to family and friends, always believed he would return. Burkett left three children when he went to war, 10-year-old Gladys, 7-year-old Kathy, and 5-day-old Bill all of whom are grown up and have been informed of the details. Burkett was killed in action on Dec. 11, 1944, in Dillingen, Germany, just before the Battle of the Bulge. He was with the 90th U.S. Infantry Division.