



John Strom

January 3, 1933 - November 2, 1950

John Oscar Strom was born to his parents John & Frieda (Polley) Strom in rural Polk County. They moved from Crookston in 1940 to Fergus Falls where he attended school until enlisting in the US Army at age 17 on February 2, 1950 in Fargo, North Dakota. He attended boot camp at Fort Riley, Kansas. He returned to Fergus Falls on furlough and knew that when he returned he would be sent to Korea. His ship set sail for Korea in September of 1950. On November 1st and 2nd his division was engaged by Chinese regulars in the Camel's Head area of Unsan County, North Korea. All records indicate that his unit ceased to exist following this fire fight. John was officially listed as Missing in Action in 1950. It was determined that John's original burial site was moved by a North Korean farmer in 1989. In July-August of 2002 the new burial site was discovered by another North Korean farmer. John's dog tag was found embedded in a log near the burial site. A recovery team was sent in to excavate the area. The US Recovery Mission teams started in 1996 and it is the only form of US and North Korean military cooperation, completely run by North Korean rules. Cpl John Oscar Strom, D Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division was returned to the Casualty & Mortuary Affairs Branch at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii where complete identification was made between August 2002 and May of 2005. John was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister Dorothy Friskop of Fargo, niece, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. John Oscar Strom will be buried, with full military honors, next to his parents in the Trinity

Lutheran Cemetery in Fergus Falls.