

## **Tech 5 Edward Hill Richardson, Sr.**

From Paul Carter, published in the Orange County Historical Society *Record*:<sup>1</sup>

“Tech5 Edward Hill Richardson, Sr., son of Vivian Scott and Elnora Burruss Richardson, was born 8 October 1920 in Orange County, Virginia. He was from a family of twelve children and completed three years of high school. Edward married Mary Elvira Lewis of Louisa County on 7 December 1940 and had two sons before being drafted into the Army on 21 April 1944 in Richmond, Virginia.

“Before entering the Army, he worked for Leroy Foster in the Pamunkey area of the county. Leroy Foster owned a private sawmill on Marquis Road and approximately 200 acres of farmland. Much of the sawmill work was done for the local people. Edward worked at the sawmill and on the farm. He later moved to Alexandria and worked at various jobs until returning to Orange when he was drafted.

“Edward was assigned to the 344 Quartermaster Corps, laundry platoon. Laundry and service jobs were typical of the work assigned to African Americans during World War II. Driving trucks delivering gasoline and supplies often became life threatening for the Quartermaster Corps soldiers. Unfortunately, very little is known about his military service. The family received word that he drowned in the South Pacific on 19 March 1945 and his death is noted as DNB<sup>2</sup> in a June 1946 listing of the war dead. The exact circumstances and location of his death are unknown. He initially was buried overseas. Later his body was repatriated and buried in the Richardson Family Cemetery in Daniel, Virginia in 1949.”

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<sup>1</sup> Paul Carter, “Tech5 Edward Hill Richardson, Sr.,” Orange County Historical Society *Record*, Vol. 53, No. 2 (Fall 2022), 12.

<sup>2</sup> DNB: Died, non-battle, which designates ‘other’ line-of-duty deaths, such as from sickness, homicide, suicide or accident, outside of combat areas (including training and maneuver deaths).