

## Paul Andrew Adamovich Info Sheet

**Name of Soldier:** Paul Andrew Adamovich

**Branch of Service:** U.S. Army

**Home State:** West Virginia

**County/Town:** Marion County

**Enlisted City:** N/A

**Serial Number:** 35382661

**Family Numbers:** Pfc. John Adamovich (Brother),  
Andrew Adamovich (Father), Margaret Adamovich (Mother)

**Education:** 1 year of high school

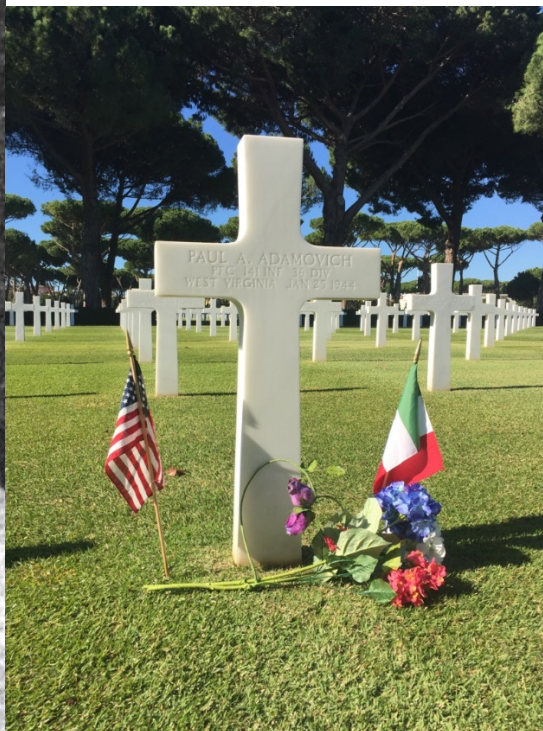
**Job Prior to Entering Military Service:** Consolidated Coal Company

**Birthdate:** 1915

**Date of Death:** January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1944

**Age when Died:** 29 years old

**Awards:** Silver Star, Purple Heart, Combat  
Infantryman Badge, American Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal



On January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944, the Battle of Monte Cassino broke out in Italy, it was a costly battle of four assaults. This battle lasted 123 days and it was one of the bloodiest fights throughout World War II, there were close to 185,000 casualties including Pfc. Paul A. Adamovich.

Our focal point for the Battle of Monte Cassino is the Battle of Rapido River which was actually fought on the Gari River. This battle started on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1944 and lasted two days. Pfc. Adamovich and the rest of the US 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry were attempting to cross the Gari River in order to break through the German defenses but were subject to heavy fire from the German 15<sup>th</sup> Panzer Grenadier Division.

Despite the heavy losses Pfc. Adamovich and his unit, they continued forward to try to complete their objective. Pfc. Adamovich's display of courage and leadership came to an end when he was wounded and killed heading inland on January 21<sup>st</sup>. He died at the age of 29 displaying great courage and honor alongside his fellow soldiers.

#### Thoughts prior to visiting the Sicily Rome American Cemetery:

My only thoughts about the cemetery within the last week were how I was going to honor my fallen soldier. Throughout the research I learned a lot about the battles fought in Italy and I didn't realize the magnitude of it. The number of casualties blew my mind. I think it's amazing that they have a cemetery in Italy that is dedicated to Americans. This shows the importance of our home land but also the greatness of Italy. The respect given is something that I really appreciate as a fellow American with Italian roots.

Overall, I'm excited that we get to honor these brave soldiers that sacrificed their lives to fight against evil. They are the real-life superheroes in my mind and their courage is unmatched. I already believe that this experience at the cemetery will be both gratifying and humbling.

## Thoughts After Visiting Cemetery

I'll start by saying that I have visited a few cemeteries in my lifetime for reasons that are not the greatest, but I've come to realize that death is an inevitable part of life. There is a great difference between visiting the cemetery in Rome for the US soldiers and visiting a cemetery in my hometown for a friend or family member.

The day we arrived at the cemetery was the day after the elections and I was already feeling patriotic. When we pulled up to the gate at the cemetery, I was completely blown away by how massive the area was. The beautifully trimmed lawns, plants, and bushes were the first things that caught my attention. As I entered the gate and looked straight down, I could see a building that reminded me of the White House.

After the tour guide told us of the place and the different soldiers we went into the chapel with our Italian friends and sang our national anthems. This was probably my favorite part of the trip. Hearing the Italian students sing their national anthem was amusing and entertaining.

Overall, the incredible landscape filled with marble crosses, perfectly cut grass, a chapel, and fountain was an amazing sight to see. I am proud to say I had the opportunity to visit this cemetery and pay homage to a soldier who fought for my family. I will encourage anyone visiting Rome to make a trip there. I will never forget this humbling experience. Thank you, Michael and Alana, for making this project so amazing!