

John Carl VanVulpen, T-38

28 April 1919 – 13 June 1945

(aged 26)



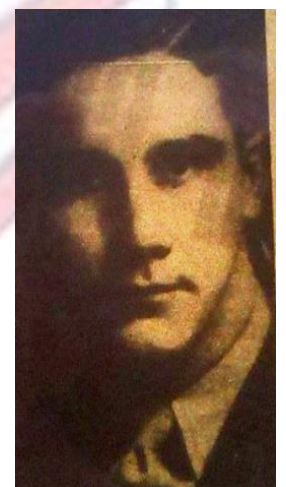
Lieutenant John VanVulpen, son of Mr. and Mrs. S.C. VanVulpen of Whitehaven, has been promoted from second to first lieutenant at Camp Adair OR. He formerly was a star athlete at Memphis State College and is now athletic director at Camp Adair.

Information from The Commercial Appeal Sunday, January 17, 1943.

John VanVulpen, son of Mr. and Mrs. of Whitehaven, has been promoted to a captain at Fort Lewis WA, where he is athletic instruction of a regiment. He was commissioned a second lieutenant at Fort Benning, GA, July 4, 1942.

Information from The Commercial Appeal, August, 1943.

The Ultimate Battle: Okinawa 1945-The Last Epic Struggle of World War II The first members of A and C to reach the gorge were met there at 1030 by Capt John C. VanVulpen of Company B, who had been trying to move up to reinforce them. Under orders from battalion to attack, Captain VanVulpen led the forty-six able-bodied men of his company up the south bank of the gorge onto open ground. They had gone only a few yards when a hail of mortar shells and machine-gun fire wounded seven of the men. Advance was impossible as the enemy had both the gorge and the area north of



the gorge under artillery and mortar fire. During the afternoon the survivors of the three companies straggled back to the battalion lines. For many the trip was a nightmare of hairbreadth escapes; the battalion surgeon considered none of the survivors fit for further duty.

