

African Americans Who Have Contributed in Wars

African Americans are important to the history of the United States of America. They do not get the credit that they deserve. People judge them because of their race. On the inside we are all the same people though. The Medal of Honor is awarded to people who show great courage and valor. The people who have one goal in life, to serve their country. Many African Americans have received this award, and Corporal Freddie Stowers is one of the many.

Freddie Stowers was born on January 12, 1896 in Sandy Springs, South Carolina. He served in the United States Army in World War I. He is the only African American to receive this award for valor during World War I. Freddie Stowers joined the First Provisional Infantry Regiment on October 4, 1917 at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina. He was part of the first draft for World War I. Corporal Stowers was leading his troops into no man's land during the fight against German forces. The German forces tricked Stowers and his men into thinking they were surrendering. When Stowers marched his troops out of the trenches the German forces continued fire. He was killed by machine gun fire. Corporal Freddie Stowers was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on April 24, 1991. Corporal Freddie Stowers showed what it meant to be brave and how much he cared about his country.

There are also many African American women that have shaped our nation's history. Harriet M. Waddy is an example of one of these women. Harriet M. Waddy was born on June 4, 1904. She was one of two highest ranking officers in the Women's Army Corps in World War II. She made a radio broadcast advising colored women to join the armed forces. She fought against racial actions during World War II. She thought that giving colored women the opportunity to be in the Army would help them with their lives. She believed that having colored women in the

Army would benefit the African American race. Harriet M. Waddy died on February 24, 1999. She helped African Americans get the rights that they deserved.

Another African American that helped our nation is Colonel Adele E. Hodges. Colonel Adele E. Hodges was the first African American woman to be a commander. Hodges oversaw 47,000 marines in Fort Lejeune. She helped improve training for the Marines and sailors. She also helped make the security better. She wanted to make sure that the soldiers knew the moral of being a family. Having a good relationship with other soldiers was something that Adele E. Hodges wanted every soldier to understand.

Every person is important to this nation. It does not matter what race or religion you are. African Americans are treated differently because of their race. We are all the same. These people and many more have stepped up to fill their role in our nation's history. They are the people who helped protect my life.

African American War Heroes

Kaitlyn Baranko

500 Words