



I. "Top" Barlow

August 3, 1916 - June 7, 2010

I.P. "Top" Barlow, 93, lifelong resident of Hardee County, died on Monday, June 7, 2010. He was born on August 3, 1916 in Wauchula to Ingram P. Barlow and Ola Bailey. He was an all-around champion cowboy and bull rider in numerous rodeos in Florida prior to World War II. He was drafted into the U. S. Army in December 1941 and was an original member of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment which formed at Lawson Field, Ft. Benning, GA in the spring of 1942. He participated in the invasions of Sicily and Italy in 1943 by parachute assaults at Gela and Salerno, respectively. Additionally, he was a member of the amphibious invasion force at Anzio. He was wounded in action east of Anzio in the late winter of 1944 and medically discharged from service. After the war he returned to Hardee County where he was a rancher and orange grower. He married Nell Mattison Kelly of Arcadia on March 6, 1949 and raised five sons, all of whom survive him. He is also survived by four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Visitation is Tuesday, June 8th from 5-7 p.m. at Roberts Garden Chapel. Graveside services are at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 9th at New Hope Cemetery