

# James May Rutter

Birth: May 13, 1841

Death: Nov. 23, 1907

Burial: Hollenback Cemetery, Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, PA, USA, Plot: Lot 734

Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient. He served as a Sergeant in the Union Army in Company C, 143d Pennsylvania Infantry. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for action on July 1, 1863 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. His citation reads "At great risk of his life went to the assistance of a wounded comrade and while under fire removed him to a place of safety."

Sergeant James Rutter was one of 63 men who was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism in the battle at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 1 - 3, 1863. On the first day of battle Sergeant Rutter's regiment fought along the Chambersburg Pike until ordered to fall back late in the afternoon. As the Union Army retreated, Captain Reichard, who had been wounded earlier, was left on the battlefield. Upon discovering this, Sergeant Rutter immediately volunteered to rescue the wounded officer. Under severe musket and cannon fire he went to the captain and, at great risk to his own life, removed Captain Reichard to a place of safety.

Medal of Honor:

Awarded for actions during the Civil War

The President of the United States of America, in the name of Congress, takes pleasure in presenting the Medal of Honor to Sergeant James May Rutter, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism on 1 July 1863, while serving with Company C, 143d Pennsylvania Infantry, in action at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. At great risk of his life Sergeant Rutter went to the assistance of a wounded comrade, and while under fire removed him to a place of safety.

General Orders: Date of Issue: October 30, 1896

Action Date: July 1, 1863

Service: Army

Rank: Sergeant

Company: Company C

Division: 143d Pennsylvania Infantry

Born W.-Barre, Pa., March 13, 1841. Married Martha C. Burdett, Oct. 15, 1866; Alvaretta Wiidoner, April 24, 1886. Real Estate. Mem. of the City School Bd. Served 3 years in War of Rebellion. 1862 to 1865. Received a Congres. Medal of Honor for gallantry at Gettysburg, Pa., July 1, 1863. Charter Mem. Conyngham Post, G. A. K. Mem. and Past Col. U. V. li. Mem. Landmark Lodge, F. & A. M.