

Basic Detail Report



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Title Purple Heart

Date 1918

Primary Maker George Gilbert Shepard

Medium gold; metal; enamel; silk; velvet; leather; satin

Description A Purple Heart in its original case posthumously awarded to George Gilbert Shepard who died from wounds he recieved near Verdun, France during World War I. The Purple Heart (a) medal is in the shape of a heart decorated with purple enamel in the center an a gold border. A gold silhouette of George Washington is affixed to the center. A red and white enamel shield with green leaves adorns the top of the heart, which hangs from a purple and white satin ribbon. The reverse side of the medal is inscribed and engraved with "FOR/ MILITARY/ MERIT/ GEORGE G./ SHEPARD." A separate rectangular lapel bar (b) is included with the medal. It is covered with purple and white satin ribbon. A rectangular lapel pin (c) is also included with the medal and it is a purple and white enamel. The medal and pins are housed in a black leather case (d) embossed with gold. The interior of the case is lined with gold velvet and silk. The exterior of the case has "PURPLE/ HEART" printed in the center.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions ((a) length x width of medal): $3 \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (7.6 $\times$ 3.8cm) Other ((b) height x width of lapel bar): $\frac{3}{8} \times 1 \frac{1}{2}$ in. (1 $\times$ 3.8cm)

Primary Dimensions ((c) height x width of lapel pin): $\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{3}{4}$ in. (0.3 $\times$ 1.9cm)

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Other ((d) height x width x depth of case): $1 \times 3 \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \frac{1}{2}$ in. ($2.5 \times 8.9 \times 16.5$

cm)