

COLE, Leon J. Jr.

B: 1921 TN

D: 11 June 1944 Villedieu-les-Poêles, FRA

Lt. Leon Cole, Jr. Missing After Raid on France

Second Lt. Leon B. Cole, Jr., 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon B. Cole, 4606 Utah Avenue, is missing from



Lt. Cole

a mission over France on June 11, only a week after his arrival in England, his parents and wife have been notified by the war department.

Young Cole, graduate of Father Ryan High, and employed at Vultee before entering the air corps, was stationed at Tallahassee, Fla., in a replacement group before leaving for overseas.

Clipping from *The Tennessean* (Nashville)
29 June 1944

Hometown: Nashville, Tennessee

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 334th Fighter Squadron

Aircraft:

None assigned

4th Service: 2 June 1944 – 11 June 1944

3 missions

11 JUN 44 Aircraft struck the ground while strafing northeast of Villedieu-les-Poêles in northern France. Though able to remain airborne, his "aircraft was pouring black smoke." It exploded moments later. KIA (MACR 5572)

Buried at Brittany American Cemetery
St. James, France
Plot J Row 18 Grave 10

Victories:

None

Decorations:

Purple Heart