LANGE, Dean E.

B: 31 October 1923 Fairmount, ND D: 14 January 2022 Mesa, AZ



Hometown: Fairmount, North Dakota

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 334th Fighter Squadron

Aircraft:

N/A

4th Service: 15 June 1944 - 18 August 1944

18 AUG 44 Section bounced by six ME-109's while providing top cover for 335. His a/c received multiple strikes and caught fire, forcing him to bail out. He had to bail out using only his right arm as his left arm and hand were severely wounded by 20mm cannon fire. He was captured shortly after landing in Beavais, France. His a/c crashed just north of Therdonne, France.

POW. (MACR 7944)

Victories:

None

Post 4th Fighter Group:

Helicopter flight instructor in the US Army. Upon leaving the US Army, had his own crop dusting business in Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

Decorations:

Air Medal (OLC), POW Medal, Purple Heart, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal.