

## **POTTER, Eugene M.**

B: 13 October 1920 St. Paul, MN

D: 7 JUL 44 near Campeau, FRA



## **Eugene Potter killed in action**

Capt. Eugene Potter, fighter pilot, has been officially declared killed in action according to word received by his brother, Edward, of Arlington Heights. Gene was reported missing in action July 7. At that time an air force chaplain wrote that there was little hope for his safety. The German government, through the International Red Cross, has reported that Capt. Potter was killed in action.

Gene entered the Canadian air force in the winter of '40-'41. He went to England as a member of the first American squadron to fight on English soil. His group was dubbed the "Eagle Squadron."

Capt. Potter was later transferred to the American air force. It was announced a month ago that he had been awarded the distinguished flying cross and the air medal with a silver oak leaf and six bronze clusters.

Gene attended Arlington Heights schools, and later held a job with a metropolitan daily, before entering the air force.

*The Daily Herald (Chicago)  
8 September 1944*

**Hometown:** Chicago, Illinois

**Rank:** 1st Lieutenant

**MOS:** 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

**Unit:** 334th Fighter Squadron

### **Aircraft:**

Spitfire Mk VB EN783

**4th Service:** 28 October 1942 - 17 November 1942

Flew four missions with the 334th Fighter Squadron; circumstances surrounding his assignment unknown. Though with 71 Squadron was not among the officers transferred to the USAAF on 29 SEP 42; eventually transferred on 28 October 1942.

### **Victories:**

None

2 total (with 368th Fighter Group)

### **Post 4th Fighter Group:**

9 MAR 44 Assigned to the 397th Fighter Squadron, 368th Fighter Group.

7 JUL 44 His P-47 collided with a FW-190 near Campeau that had emerged from the overcast directly in front of him.

KIA (MACR 6645)

Buried at Brittany American Cemetery  
St. James, France  
Plot F Row 4 Grave 3

### **Decorations:**

Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (11 OLC), Purple Heart, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal.