

O'DONNELL, William J.

B: 22 July 1920 Philadelphia, PA

D: 4 June 2014 St. Petersburg, FL



Hometown: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Rank: Major

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 335th Fighter Squadron

336th Fighter Squadron

4th Headquarters Squadron

Aircraft:

P-51D-10-NA 44-14529 WD-X

P-51D-10-NA 44-14557 WD-B *The Duchess*

P-51D-25-NA 44-73051 WD-B *The Duchess*

4th Service: 5 October 1944 – 22 September 1945

20 JAN 45 Designated Flight Commander A Flight

22 MAR 45 Assigned to 4th Headquarters Squadron;
appointed Group Air Inspector

1 JUN 45 Assigned to the 336th Fighter Squadron;
appointed Squadron Commanding Officer

16 JUL 45 Promoted to Major

Victories:

4.5 (1.5 air/3 ground)

Post 4th Fighter Group:

JUL 45 Squadron CO, 79th Fighter Group (Horsching, Austria).

SEP 47 Squadron CO, 95th Fighter Squadron/ 82nd Fighter Group (Grenier AFB Manchester, NH).

JUL 50 Squadron CO, 36th Fighter Squadron, Tsuiki AB, Japan and Suwon AB, South Korea. Flew 112 combat missions in the F-51's and F-80's.

1961 Retired from the USAF as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (14 OLC), Bronze Star (OLC), European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Croix de Guerre (w/ Silver Star), World War II Victory Medal.