

CARLSON, Kendall E.

“Swede”

B: 14 July 1919 Red Bluff, CA

D: 28 January 1977 CA



*“Stocky, sandy-haired and emotional, Carlson had been bested and rattled many times, but he kept boring in with undiminished combat ardor.”*

*- from 1000 Destroyed by Grover Hall, 4FG PRO during the war*

Hometown: Red Bluff, California

Rank: Captain

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 336th Fighter Squadron

Aircraft:

P-47C-5-RE 41-6575 VF-E

P-51B-7-NA 43-6507 VF-E

P-51K-1-NT 44-11356 VF-

4th Service: 25 July 1943 – 25 February 1945

- 1 JAN 44 Promoted to 1st Lieutenant
- 25 MAR 44 Designated Flight Commander D Flight
- 23 APR 44 Promoted to Captain
- 4 MAY 44 Designated Flight Commander A Flight
- 26 MAY 44 Designated Assistant Squadron Operations and Gunnery Officer
- 31 MAY 44 Designated Squadron Operations and Gunnery Officer
- 11 NOV 44 Designated Flight Commander C Flight
- 25 FEB 45 Aircraft struck by flak while strafing an airdrome. After crash landing, he continued to stay in the fight by directing his still airborne comrades onto targets about the airdrome via the R/T in his cockpit.

POW. (MACR 12737)

Victories:

10 (6 air /4 ground)

Highlights:

- 16 MAR 44 - 2 ME-110's
- 22 APR 44 - 1.5 ME-109's

Post 4th Fighter Group:

- 26 OCT 45 Promoted to Major
- 14 JAN 47 Released from active duty
- 19 JUN 47 Transferred to regular Army
- 1948-1949 With the 522nd FS flying F-82E's
- 9 JUL 50 Transferred to the 12th FBS in Korea where he flew 46 combat missions in F-51D's.
- 19 NOV 50 Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel
- 22 APR 51 Discharged form the Air Force

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross (3 OLC), Air Medal (12 OLC), Presidential Unit Citation, Purple Heart, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (with 5 bronze stars), POW Medal, American Campaign Medal, American Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal.