

LANE, James C.

“Jockey”

B: 9 September 1920 Boston, MA

D: 14 March 1999 Westminster, CA



Hometown: Medford, Massachusetts

Rank: 1st Lieutenant

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 336th Fighter Squadron

Aircraft:

P-51B-7-NA 43-6714 VF-J *Butch*

P-51D-5-NA 44-13307 VF-J *Butch*

P-51D-5-NA 44-13260 VF-J

4th Service: 4 April 1944 – 12 September 1944

10 JUN 44 Promoted to 1st Lieutenant

21 JUN 44 Participated in Operation FRANTIC II, the Russia Shuttle mission. (RTB 6 JUL)

8 JUL 44 Designated Flight Commander A Flight

14 JUL 44 Designated Flight Commander C Flight

12 SEP 44 Suffered coolant leak; spotted SW of Frankfort by pilots from the 357th FG who noted he was “priming the aircraft furiously.” After flying on for another twenty minutes, he was seen to bail out “20 to 30 miles NE of Trier,” land safely and run into the woods.

POW (MACR 9167)

Victories:

1

Post 4th Fighter Group:

Remained in the USAF. Served in Korea, retired as a Major.

Decorations:

Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal (OLC), European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, POW Medal.