

MILLIKAN, Willard W.

"Millie"

B: 4 December 1918 Hamburg, IA

D: 19 October 1978 Alexandria, VA



"...our wingmen stayed with their number one men. They gave me the necessary cover and moral support...and I was able to spend more time concentrating on shooting and maneuvering... Good wingmen are at a premium, and without them we could not do much. Every man had countless opportunities to break away and attack, but wingmen stayed on and did their job."

- Willard Millikan, from his combat report of 22 APR 44, a mission on which he shot down 4 enemy aircraft

Hometown: Rock Port, Missouri

Rank: Captain

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 336th Fighter Squadron

Aircraft:

P-47C-2-RE 41-6180 VF-U *Missouri Mauler*

P-51B-7-NA 43-6997 VF-U

P-51B-15-NA 43-24769 VF-U *Missouri Mauler*

4th Service: February 1943 to 30 May 1944

APR 43 Promoted to 1st Lieutenant

1 MAR 44 Designated Flight Commander D Flight

18 MAR 44 Designated Flight Commander C Flight

25 MAR 44 Designated Flight Commander B Flight

13 APR 44 Appointed squadron Commanding officer (acting - to 10 MAY 44; Goodson on DS)

2 APR 44 Promoted to Captain

4 MAY 44 Designated squadron Assistant Operations and Gunnery officer

15 MAY 44 Designated squadron Operations officer

30 MAY 44 Aircraft involved in collision with wingman Sam Young's (VF-Y) when the latter maneuvered to avoid flak over Bernburg. POW. (MACR 5488)

Victories:

15 (13 air / 2 ground)

Highlights:

8 APR 44 - 3 ME-109's

22 APR 44 - 4 ME-109's

Post 4th Fighter Group:

JAN 1946 Released from active duty as a Major

OCT 1946 Joined Washington, DC ANG as Captain

MAY 1948 Promoted to Major, CO of 121st FS

FEB 1951 Promoted to Lt. Col., unit activated for Korea

JUN 1951 Appointed CO 33rd FIG

OCT 1952 Again released from active duty

OCT 1961 CO of 113th TFW

APR 1968 Major General, CO of 833rd Air Division

JUN 1969 Retires from the Air Force

Decorations

Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross (5 OLC), Air Medal (3 OLC), Legion of Merit, Purple Heart