

WOODS, Sidney S.

"Sid"

B: 25 July 1917 San Marcos, TX

D: 31 March 1989 Yuma, AZ



"I closed in behind the No. 4 man and all four broke violently to the left. I pulled in so tight in order to stay behind him that my gyro spilled and I was giving him lead with the fixed sight. He pulled up in a steep, climbing turn to the left and as he did I saw my tracers going just into his tail. I pulled back slightly on the stick and the tracers went into his cockpit."

- from Sidney Woods combat report of 25 MAR 45, detailing how he shot down the last of 5 e/a he downed on that day's mission.

Hometown: Somerton, Arizona

Rank: Captain

MOS: 1055 - Pilot, single engine fighter

Unit: 4th Headquarters Squadron

Aircraft:

P-51D-20-NA 44-72251 QP-A

4th Service: 26 February 1944 – 16 April 1945

26 FEB 45 Appointed Deputy Group Commander

16 APR 45 Shot down by flak while strafing Praha-Kbely airdrome near Prague. Bailed out safely to become a POW. (MACR 14130)

Victories:

5

10 total (7 air / 3 ground)

Highlights:

22 MAR 45 - 5 FW-190's "Ace in a day"

Post 4th Fighter Group:

1946 Joined Air Force Reserve

1951 Executive Officer 3525th Pilot Training Group
Williams AFB, Arizona

1952 Commanding Officer 3525th Pilot Training Group
Williams AFB, Arizona

Decorations:

Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star,
Distinguished Flying Cross (2 OLC), Air Medal (9 OLC),
Distinguished Unit Badge, POW Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal, Croix de Guerre.