

Edwin William Andrews, T-37

18 March 1920 – 12 June 1998

(aged 78)



*He won the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) as flight leader on a mission that successfully bombed Dr. Fritz Todt's engineering outfit while it was building the Gothic line in northern Italy.*

*He flew his B-25 into harbor after harbor, firing a 75mm. cannon at port installations while barely skimming the water.*

*He took part in 68 bombing missions over Italy while based in Corsica.*

*At 24, Lieutenant Edwin W. Andrews, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Andrews, 668 Spring, is home after nine months of aerial combat overseas with the AAF, and he sums it up something like this.*

*"All missions are about the same. You fly over. You drop your bombs, you either hit your target or you don't."*

*His most thrilling experience was the one he won that DFC. He also has the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters.*

*"Really it was not much different from the other missions. We went after a big German engineering outfit. The flak was terrific. We maneuvered thru it at first, but finally this didn't help because it was everywhere. We knew we were after Dr. Todt's outfit, the one that built the Atlantic wall, the Gothic line, and other German defense lines. With precision bombing we got many direct hits."*

*"Firing the 75 mm cannon was the job of the pilot," Lt. Andrews, pilot of his ship, said. "The pilot can hardly tell when it shoots. It doesn't slow down the ship one bit. It jars the men in the rear considerably. We used it on ships and harbors mostly.*

*Lieutenant Andrews, whose father is a foreman for Arthur Fulmer Co. graduated from Tech High, worked at Shake Bros. Dairy before he enlisted. He was commissioned April 12, 1943, went overseas December 3, 1943. His 63 missions averaged around three hours each. His plane was struck by flak many times and once his bombardier was wounded. "The B-25, parts of which are made at Memphis Fisher Aircraft, is a wonderful plane, he says, and I wouldn't have anything else."*

*Lieutenant Andrews reached the states September 26 and will report to Miami for reassignment October 27.*

*While here he wants to catch up on his fishing and make arrangements to get his ballot to vote in the presidential election in November. He had ordered an overseas ballot before he knew he was coming home.*

*He said there was great interest among the men overseas in the election, some hot political arguments and he felt sure most would vote.*

*Information from The Press Scimitar, Tuesday, October 3, 1944.*

.