

Clarence Roy VanCleave, T-39

30 September 1920 – 25 December 1965

(aged 45)



Roy VanCleave, Jr., B-17 co-pilot, is reported missing on his 13th mission December 31 over Germany. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. VanCleave, Sr., 1981 Mignon and husband of the former Jeanne Miller, 280 N. McNeil.

After graduating from Tech High, he was with Kelley & Jamison until he enlisted in the Army in July 1940. He graduated from airplane mechanics school at Chanute Field IL, before being selected for cadet training. He won his wings and commission in the Army Air Forces March 12, 1944, at Columbus MS and went overseas in October.

On December 30 he wrote of having been awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal.

Information from The Press-Scimitar, Monday, January 22, 1945.

Two Weeks Later:

Word has been received that Lieutenant Roy VanCleave, husband of Mrs. VanCleave of 280 North Waldran, is a prisoner in Germany. He was formerly reported missing. Overseas since last October, Lieutenant VanCleave was co-pilot of a B-17. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. VanCleave, Sr., of 1981 Mignon.

Information from The Commercial Appeal, Thursday, February 15, 1945.

