

**MISSOURI STATE SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

Proudly Honors

HERMAN HUGH DEDLOFF

UNITED STATES ARMY AIR CORPS

SECOND LIEUTENANT (O-1)

NOVEMBER 21, 1941 – 17 SEPTEMBER 1944

KILLED IN ACTION

as

PURPLE HEART PATRIOT

MAY 2026

W. Craig Dedloff, Honoring His Uncle's Service and Sacrifice

Sponsored by: Saint Charles Chapter, NSDAR



Herman Hugh “Bud” Dedloff entered the Army on November 17, 1941, at the age of 24, at Fort MacArthur, San Pedro, California. He served as an enlisted man until he was transferred to the Army Air Corps in January 1943. He became a flight officer at Columbus, Mississippi, after training at Columbia, South Carolina, and Maxwell Field, Alabama. Shortly before going overseas, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant at Baer Field, Indiana.

He was stationed in England as part of the World War II European Theatre of Operations (TO) West Front in 1944. His squadron was in the “Market-Garden” Operation taking place September 17-26, 1944, in the “Holland Mission” consisting of a combination of two attacks. The first “Operation Market” was an airborne attack on the bridges over the main rivers in Holland. The second “Operation Garden” was a ground and later an infantry attack and link-up with the para’s into Holland.

Bud was the co-pilot of the C-47A #42-100676 with squadron fuselage code letters Z8 (Zebra eight) and nicknamed “Little Stachel”. His home base was at Ramsbury Airfield near the village of Ramsbury, England. On September 17, 1944, the cargo plane was participating in the airborne phase as part of a glider tow mission to Holland, flying as a tug plane with heavy equipment and material for support of the US 101st Airborne Division landing in the Eindhoven area. The four crewmembers, Pilot, Co-Pilot, Crew Chief, and Radio Operator, followed the “Southern route” from Ramsbury, England, over the channel, over Belgium to Holland. After flying into the Netherlands over the frontlines and approaching Landingzone W, the formation ran into heavy anti-aircraft fire. Bud’s aircraft got a direct hit on the left wing by flak. The glider was released. The C-47, on fire, lost a part of the left wing, then crashed in flames and exploded in Casteren, Netherlands,

killing all four of the crew. The crew was originally buried as Unknown by villagers at the Roman Catholic churchyard in Hoogeloon, Netherlands. In 1945, they were interred as Unknown in the US Military Cemetery 'Margraten', Netherlands, until 1949.

On July 22, 1949, Second Lieutenant Dedloff was interred in the Chattanooga National Cemetery in Tennessee, together with the other three members of the crew.

Laura Ross-Dedloff of the Saint Charles Chapter, NSDAR, proudly nominates her husband's uncle, Herman Dedloff, as a Purple Heart Patriot.