



Albert Decaria

April 25, 1925 - November 27, 2018

Albert Decaria

4-25-1925 to 11-27-2018

Resided in St George, Utah

Albert was born to the parents of Dominick Decaria and Assuntina (Villilla) Decaria in Ogden, Utah.

He graduated from Ogden High School and joined the Army Air Corps during WW2. When he came home he married Donna Houser and they later divorce. Albert moved from Ogden, Utah to Heyburn Idaho in 1965 where he established his own business in the housing industry. He then married Deanna Shelton and lived in Heyburn until 2011 when they moved to St George, Utah.

Albert is survived by three brothers, Joe Decaria, Victor Decaria, and Jess Decaria. Two sisters, Mary Decaria and Teresa Decaria, a son Stephen Decaria and a daughter Teena Moore. In addition he has four Grandchildren nine Great Grandchildren and three Great-Great-Grandchildren.

His name is Albert, but over the years I have heard many call him by his nick name Al. For the past 50 some years I have called him Pa, or Pa-in-law. Family calls him Papa, Dad, Grandpa, Great Grandpa, or Uncle. He is along

in years, he will be 94 in April of 2019, but that day of December 17, 1944, remains young in his thoughts.

Albert was a 19 year old Belly Turret Gunner on a B24 Bomber, on this day he was on his 25th mission over Germany, the number that many flight crews never reached. Al's plane was the lead plane on this mission and as they neared target they lost 3 super chargers on their engines. They remained at altitude until they dropped their bombs but immediately radioed the deputy lead that they could not maintain altitude and had to drop out of formation. As their plane was dropping down the deputy lead slid into position too soon and came down on their number one engine cutting the deputy lead plane in two and it went down killing all on board. Almost immediately the Navigator, Nose Gunner and Bombardier bailed out over target and the Bombardier was killed on the way down the other two were captured.

On Pa's plane there was the Pilot, Engineer and Assistant Engineer with him, and the pilot turned the plane on a heading to Italy. As nightfall approached, the pilot turned the plane over the mountains of Yugoslavia and gave the order to bail out. Al said it seemed like forever for his chute to open. When he came down, he landed among a half dozen buildings and older women and children who picked up his chute and took him inside.

After dark some men came and escorted him across the mountain to a village and reunited him with the rest of his crew. A four day trip of walking and sometimes riding got them to a town where they were evacuated back to their base in Italy. Albert, flew on 7 more missions.

His step is slower and he may not be with us much longer, I don't have the same light in my eye when I tell his story as he had over these many years when I would encourage him to tell it, I have more of a tear in thinking what a brave man went through when he was called on by his country. Thank you

“Pa” and thank you for your daughter that made me part of your family.

A graveside service in Al's honor will be held on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 11:30. Military honors provided by the American Legion.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 3. 11:30 AM (MT)

Tonaquint Cemetery
1777 S. Dixie Drive
Saint George, UT 84770

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I enjoyed visiting with Albert at the dinner table at Sterling Court. He was a good friend to my dad Paul Black. He will be missed.

Michele Stewart - December 04, 2018 at 04:47 PM

VD

“ Victor DeCaria; Michael and Carol DeCaria purchased the Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket for the family of Albert Decaria.



Victor DeCaria; Michael and Carol DeCaria - November 30, 2018 at 04:20 PM

VD

“ Being nephew of Albert, I remember as a kid going to grandpa's house in Ogden, and seeing, often, at least two of the brothers there visiting as well. They all referred to Albert as Ab. I learned years later that his given-name was Abierto, or Albert as we Americans know it.

Vincent DeCaria, son of Victor DeCaria

Vincent DeCaria - November 29, 2018 at 11:57 AM