



John Watt

March 24, 2015

John Watt, of Sun River in St George, passed away on March 24, 2015 at the age of 90. John was born in Cleveland, Ohio and attended Shaw High School, where he excelled at baseball and basketball, in addition to his academic studies.

He was exceptionally proud of his military service with the Army Air Corps during World War II. Enlisting at age 18, he trained as a bombardier/navigator and flew many European missions, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross at the age of 20, and the rank of captain a few years later.

Returning from the war, John pursued his education at Purdue University, where he graduated with a degree in air transportation engineering. His interests led him to General Electric, where he was employed for his full 37 year professional career. At GE, he was tasked with finding and hiring quality personnel for the fast growing Missile and Space Vehicle Division in the Valley Forge, PA area. GE could be proud that John was intent on employing a diverse workforce.

He had a great deal of patience, and spent countless hours fishing. His ability to communicate with animals was marvelous to see. He hand fed chipmunks, squirrels, birds, fox, and in Sun River, the local roadrunners.

John was preceded in death by his best friend/companion/wife of 35 years, Alice Lyons. His survivors include daughters Janice Heller of St George and Jennifer Pyle of Elkton, MD, a son, Christopher Watt of Concord, CA, "adopted daughter", Patt Kinner of St George, two granddaughters and five great-grandchildren.

All will miss his insightfulness, strong character, and fierce independence.

John requested no services or memorials. Cremation Center of Southern Utah is handling final arrangements. You may share condolences and memories at www.serenitystg.com.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Becky Thompson - April 06, 2015 at 12:49 PM



“ Hi, my name is Becky and I work at The Spectrum, A gentleman sent me an e-mail this morning requesting information about John, and so I sent him a copy of the obituary. He e-mailed me back with a note and a photograph attached and so I thought I would share them with you.

Thank you, Ms. Becky, for getting back tome. In comparing my photo's of Mr. Watt he was a member of Melvin's Moonshiners for 14 missions over europe and flew a major amount with my father, Kenneth C. Melvin (Pilot). I have been looking for Mr. Watt, and his family for some time, and am saddened to hear of his passing. I have been working for the past three years on a book about the Moonshiners.

Sending along a photo of my father (left), Mr. Watt (center) and another pilot George Painter. They were quartered together during their tour late 1944 and early 1945. Also a copy of the drawing they had painted on the back of the crews bomber jackets.

Thanks again, Dan Melvin

Date Mission Target Aircraft Pilot Name Position Status

*1944-09-27 213 Mainz, Germany 231675 A.E. Burns John E. Watt
Bombardier RTD*

*1944-10-25 228 Hamburg, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.
Watt Navigator*

*1944-10-26 229 Hannover, Germany 297194 K.C. Melvin John E.
Watt Navigator*

*1944-10-28 230 Hamm, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.
Watt Navigator*

*1944-10-30 231 Merseburg, Germany -Recalled-Bad Weather
2102450 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator*

*1944-11-09 236 Saarbrucken, Germany 297376 C.R. Stotesbury
John E. Watt Navigator*

*1944-11-11 237 Oberlahnstein, Germany 338760 C.R. Stotesbury
John E. Watt Navigator*

*1944-11-21 239 Giessen, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.
Watt Navigator*

1944-11-29 241 Hamm, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.

Watt Navigator

1944-11-30 242 Merseburg, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.

Watt Navigator

1944-12-04 244 Friedberg, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E.

Watt Navigator

1944-12-05 245 Berlin, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator

1944-12-16 249 Stuttgart, Germany 338106 K.C. Melvin John E.

Watt Navigator

1944-12-24 250 Biblis, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator

1944-12-25 251 Badmunster, Germany 2102450 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator

1944-12-30 255 Kassel, Germany 46475 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator

1944-12-31 256 Hamburg, Germany 339052 K.C. Melvin John E. Watt Navigator

1945-01-10 262 Himmelgeist, Germany 48260 W.J. Hamilton John E. Watt Bombardier WIA

1945-03-24 303 Steenwick-Hhsvelt, Holland 48782 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-03-28 305 Hannover, Germany 48782 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-03-30 306 Hamburg, Germany 48144 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-04-06 311 Leipzig, Germany 48040 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-04-07 312 Kaltenkirchen, Germany 48210 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-04-08 313 Eger, Germany 48548 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

1945-04-10 315 Burg, Germany 338667 E.R. Parrish John E. Watt Bombardier

CH

“ It was truly an honor to have know John. Thank you Janice for sharing your Dad with Sara and me. We will miss sharing time with him and hearing some of his life stories. A number of those stories were of his time serving this country during WWII. He like many others "did what needed to be done" as he would say, but in a very special way. His humility and quite demeanor would sometimes lead to emotion that showed the true heart and soul of this good man. His quick wit and sometimes biting humor were his way of saying "I like you". He was true to himself and lived as he wanted. I suspect he is doing it his way now . . . We will miss John but we won't forget him. This world is a better place because of John and Sara and I are better people having known him.

Chuck and Sara Schwartzberg

chuck - March 29, 2015 at 09:14 AM

JM

“ We'd like Janice and all John's Family and Friends to know that we are thinking of and praying for you all during this sad time❤️
I didn't know John very long, but I'll never forget him. I had family members about John's age, who all did their part during WWII, and I was interested in hearing some of John's recollections of those years.
We spent many hours one day looking at old photos, medals, etc., and John told me about his memories, which seemed to be just like yesterday to him.
What impressed me was his humility regarding his service, which he referred to as "just doing his job".
What touched me was his great heart and memories of what it was like to lose good friends, but have to keep going - finishing the job. I feel blessed to have spent that time with John and wish I would have known him longer.
He will be missed but not forgotten...
Jim & Terri Moses, Son-In-Law and Daughter of Patt Kinner, John's "Adopted" Daughter.

Jim and Terri Moses - March 28, 2015 at 03:49 PM

LO

“ I'm honored to have met you and your amazing daughter. You are one of a kind Mr John, courageous, honorable and a silent brave hero. We all owe so much to you. Where would we all be without the bravery that you gave. I'm so honored that I got to meet you.
Scottish Lassie is so proud to have met you!!! You are truly a hero!!!

lorraine - March 26, 2015 at 08:39 PM