



Charles Edwin Mueller

First Lieutenant
United States Army Air Corps
306th Bombardment Group, 423rd Squadron, 8th Air Force
Born 7 February 1919
Killed in Action 22 October 1944
European Theater

Charles Edwin “Chuck” Mueller, was born February 7, 1919, in Los Angeles, CA, the only child of Edwin and Wilhimina Mueller. Mr. Mueller was a citrus farmer, as was his maternal grandfather, and the family made their home in Tustin when Chuck was 11 months old.

Chuck attended Tustin elementary schools and Tustin High school, graduating with the Class of 1936. Chuck was described by his classmates as “a studious chap who is as firm as the Rock of Gibraltar.” His accomplishments included football, basketball, tennis, Captain of the track team, Letterman’s Club Secretary, Class Officer, Scholastic Society, and a member of the Clip, described as “the highest honor bestowed an athlete at Tustin High for an outstanding athletic feat while showing a sportsman like manner.”

Chuck had a steady girlfriend, Marian Carson. They were described as a popular couple while attending Santa Ana College and in the community. They married at Tustin Presbyterian Church on May 11, 1940, and made their home in Tustin where Chuck worked at Rinehardt Begonia Gardens.

Chuck entered the Army Air Corps on February 6, 1943, receiving his training in WA, CA, TX, NV, and VA. He deployed to the European Theater on June 16, 1944.

While serving as a bombardier on a B-17, with the 306th Bombardment Group, the plane was downed. First reported as missing in action, he was declared killed in action on October 22, 1944. His remains were never recovered.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Presidential Unit Citation and the Purple Heart. He was 25 years old. His only child, a daughter named Linda was born exactly 1 month after he was killed.

