

## TSgt Vernon Peter Knudson

Born 3/2/1918

Died:

Service # 36229949

SS # 389-14-3153

Period of Service: WW II

Sources: *B10 F 2*,  
*Monument, JG, Am Legion*  
Scrapbook – box 17

Entered 12/9/1941 Ft Sheridan

Discharged 9/20/1945 Ft Douglas, UT

Organizations include AAF 301<sup>st</sup> Heavy bombardment Group from 3/1942 to 12/1944.

Camps were at Ft Sheridan, Alamagordo NM,, Ft George Wright, WA, Geiger Field, WA, Richmond Army Air Base, VA, Ft. Dix, Santa Anna, CA, Kearns, UT.

Battles include Tunisia, Sicily, Naples, Foggia, Rome, Southern France, the Air Offensive in Europe as member of 301<sup>st</sup> Heavy Bombardment Group.

Sailed from the US 8/6/1942 on *USS Uruguay* arriving Chelveston, England 8/10 and then to Swansea. Also from *Naples, Italy* 11/29/1944 on *SS McAndrew* arriving NY 12/15/1944.

Medals earned were Good Conduct, European-African-Middle Eastern, Distinguished Unit Badge with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

He was also given the Soldier's Medal

"For heroism at great risk of life at an Allied airfield in Italy on 20 May, 1944. A P-51 type aircraft crash landed and immediately burst into flame. As a result of intense heat, the machine guns began to fire killing 11 men in their path. With complete and utter disregard for their personal safety, heedless of possible danger to themselves from exploding ammunition and the imminent danger of the aircraft exploding, these men made their way to the wreckage administering first aid to the wounded and successfully removed them to safety. By their conspicuous heroism, initiative, and personal example, in risking their lives to save the lives of others, these men have upheld the highest traditions of military service, thereby reflecting great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States of America." Sgt Knudson and two other men were mentioned in this citation and received the Medal.

Owned yellow house on Detroit Harbor next to the duplex. Might be Lois Krueger's uncle. (JG)

Parents were Robert Oliver Knudson and Agnes Peterson (married 10/16/1915)