



TO HONOR

RICHARD IRA BONG

MAJOR, ARMY AIR FORCES
1920 - 1945

Major Richard Ira Bong was born in Superior, Wisconsin. He joined the Army Air Corps in May, 1941. After Flight Training in September, 1942, he was assigned to a P-38 Fighter Wing in New Guinea. He became America's all-time leading ace with 40 aerial combat victories. He was the first to break Rickenbacker's World War I record of 26 victories and was personally awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by General Douglas MacArthur. He was killed testing the Lockheed P-80 on August 6, 1945.

The Ace Who Became A Legend

By 5th Air Force Memorial Foundation