



*Man's Flight
Through Life Is
Sustained By The
Power Of His
Knowledge*

TO HONOR

JAMES S. PETERSON, SR.

FIRST LIEUTENANT, US ARMY AIR FORCES

Like many young Americans of the World War II generation, James S. Peterson, Sr. interrupted his college studies to enter military service. For him, that path led to pilot's wings, a commission in the US Army Air Forces, assignment to the 78th Fighter Group of the Eighth Air Force at RAF Duxford in Cambridgeshire, England, and thirteen months of aerial combat in the cockpit of a P-51 Mustang named Wandering Boy. Following the war, he completed his education at Northwestern University, graduating in 1949 with a degree in geology. For the next twenty-four years he pursued the migratory life of a petroleum geologist. Choosing to make Denver his retirement home, he became an ardent supporter of the Colorado Chapter of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society where his commitment to that organization is remembered for having "gone beyond the duty call." Mr. Peterson died on October 6, 2018.

*"Above the Foe"
(Motto of the 78th Fighter Group)*

By: Melissa B. Bradley