



Distinguished Flying Cross
Recipient:

Birth: January 5, 1917

Death: September 20, 2000

James Vincent LaGrossa

Branch: U.S. Army Air Corps

Theatre: WWII

(National has no Citation) Research Information: During World War II, comrades called the Freedom Pennsylvania native a “good-luck charm”, which he proved to be after successfully completing 25 missions in the early B-17 daylight bombing raids over Europe. Jim flew in the 91st Bombardment Group (H) of the 8th Air Force. Jim’s missions included the first all-American bombing raid of Germany on January 27, 1943. On “Dame Satan’s” next flight out after Jim’s last mission, she crashed in England. Jim served overseas from October 1942 to August 1943. He was awarded the *Distinguished Flying Cross* with three oak leaf clusters and the Air Medal.