



Distinguished Flying Cross
Recipient:

Birth: January 2, 1924

Death: March 26, 2005

Julius Smith

Branch: U.S. Army Air Corps

Theatre: WWII

(National has no Citation) Research Information:: Staff Sergeant Julius Smith, along with the rest of his crew, was assigned to a USAAC base in Glatton, England where they served as members of the 457th Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force. The crew flew their bomber, Prop Wash, on 28 successful missions into the heart of Nazi Occupied Europe. During that time, Julius was awarded the Air Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters. On their 29th mission, the crew was shot down by enemy fighters and antiaircraft fire and forced to crash land in the North Sea. The crew eventually commandeered a German fishing boat and forced the ship's crew to return to England. For Julius's flaming Fortress, as it sank in the North Sea to rescue an injured crewman, he was awarded the *Distinguished Flying Cross*.