



## Colonel Roy Evan Stapp

By: Braxton Hardman  
Enoch Elementary Mrs. Braden's Fourth grade class

Parents: Jake and Sandee Hardman  
Phone: 801-834-1322, 801-891-9969  
Email: sandee.s74@gmail.com

Roy Evan Stapp was my great grandpa he was a 2nd lieutenant pilot. He served in World War Two, he enlisted when he was only 18 years old to join the air core which is what was before air force. He flew a B26 Bomber plane, a B26 was a plane that flew pretty close to the ground at about 10-12,000 feet. In training he flew a twin engine aircraft. One day his commander asked him if he would fly a B26 he asked what is a B26? Roy had been training for only 10 days before he was sent to fly his first combat mission, he flew 50 combat missions over Italy and Germany. On his 27th mission he was bombing a German bridge over the Rhine river. While they were flying, Germans started shooting and knocked his radio over his head onto his lap he was trying to brush the hot pipes off of the radio and still fly. When he returned they found 90 flak holes, broken brakes, and no hydraulic fluid. He numbed his nerves in his right butt cheek because of the radio, until he died he could still feel it

there. Twenty five years after the war Roy went back to the cities he had bombed he saw the damage he had done even after twenty five years. At his funeral that I went to soldiers did a 21 gun salute which is where 3 soldiers each shoot 7 bullets to honor what he did by fighting in the war. I think it was cool that he fought in the war because he was so young and he made a sacrifice for the country. Something funny that happened after he enlisted was he told his dad that he was in the army, when his dad told his mom that he was in the army the next thing he heard was a loud scream. A favorite quote that he said was "flying is the second greatest thrill known to man, landing is the first."