

THOMAS EDGAR WILEY



Thomas Edgar Wiley, a resilient World War II veteran who defied the odds of wartime challenges, passed away on January 17, 2024, at the age of 100. Born on June 23, he celebrated his centenary at Atria McCandless, a senior living facility in Duncan Avenue.

Enlisting in the Army Air Corps on December 7, 1942, just a year after Pearl Harbor, Tom Wiley embarked on a remarkable journey as an Army pilot. Credited with 57 missions, one of which involved a mysterious bombing run in southern Germany, Tom's wartime experiences were nothing short of extraordinary.

Surviving anti-aircraft shells and navigating through thunderhead clouds, Wiley's B-17 bomber emerged as the sole plane after passing through the perilous weather. With fuel running low and no navigator, a voice over the intercom shouted, "Pull-up!" Tom made a life-saving maneuver, averting disaster and safely guiding his crew back to base.

Post-war, Tom married Mary Norman, and they built a family together with four children, two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Despite Mary's passing in 1999 due to complications of Parkinson's disease, Tom found love again with Joan Dawson, and they shared over two decades of companionship.

Tom's contributions extended beyond his military service. Joining U.S. Steel in Pittsburgh in 1960, he dedicated 22 years to marketing the company's products to farmers. Additionally, Tom served as an adult Boy Scout leader for over 25 years, leaving a lasting impact on young lives.

A man of few words about his wartime feats during his son Jim's upbringing, Tom later documented his life obsessively. His legacy lives on through the stories he shared and the resilience he exhibited in the face of adversity.

A funeral service to honor Thomas Edgar Wiley's remarkable life will be held at 11 AM on Monday, January 22, 2024, at Christ Episcopal Church in North Hills, Pittsburgh, with funeral arrangements entrusted to **H.P. BRANDT FUNERAL HOME.**



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