

# AVIATION WALL OF HONOR



## **Lieutenant Colonel Charles K. Hatch**

Charles K. Hatch was born on February 26, 1916 in Marquette, Michigan to Perry and Margaret Kimball Hatch. He attended grade school and high school at John D. Pierce, and then enrolled in Northern State Teachers College. He graduated in June of 1938 with a B.S. Degree in Industrial Arts and a Life Teaching Certificate.

From September 1938 to May 1941, he taught Industrial Arts, Science, and Math at

Winona High School and Eben High School, both in Michigan.

In 1940, he earned his private flying license as a student of Sig Wilson here in Marquette. The following year in May 1941, he started Government Primary Flying Training at Stanford, Texas (southwest of Forth Worth) in a PT-17 and PT-13 biplane. This was followed by three months of Basic Training at Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas in the single wing BT-14 and, finally, an additional three months of Advanced Training at Kelly Field, also near San Antonio, Texas.

His assignments in the United States Air Force starting in May 1941 to November 1946 included: Basic Flying Instructor, Flying Instructor Trainer at Central Instructors School, Randolph AFB, Texas, and Ground School Instructor in Theory of Flight and Operational

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Procedures. Starting as a Flying Cadet in May 1941, he advanced to Second Lieutenant in January 1942, then First Lieutenant in September 1942. Then in November 1943, he advanced to the rank of Captain. Following World War II, he advanced to Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

Charles Hatch was a member of many organizations. He was Adjutant of the American Legion Post 449, Elm Grove, Wisconsin and was President of the YMCA Gavel Club. He is a member of Public Information Flight, and, as Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserve, has served with the Air Rescue Squadron in Mt. Clemens, Michigan and with the 434<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Wing in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In addition to being a teacher, he was active in various civic programs. Like his father, he was active in the Boy Scouts of America and served as District Scout Executive in three councils (Pontiac, Michigan, from 1948 to 1952, Indianapolis, Indiana, from 1952 to 1957, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from 1957 to present). At this time, he lives in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

TJ Mudge, Jan. 2004