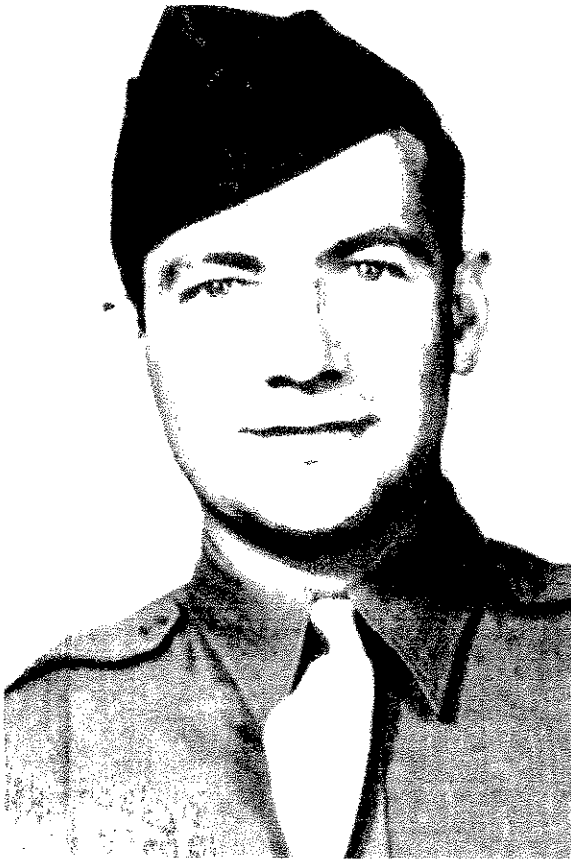


# AVIATION WALL OF HONOR



## **Lieutenant William Charles McDonald USAF Killed in Action**

William Charles McDonald was born to Mr. and Mrs. John A. McDonald on November 21, 1917. He was born in the Big Bay Lighthouse where his father was the Head Lighthouse Keeper at Big Bay from 1915 through 1928.

William attended elementary school in Big Bay until 1929 when his family moved to Marquette. In Marquette, he attended Howard Junior High School before transferring to Graveraet High School graduating in 1935.

One of his early jobs was with the Phillips 66 gas station at the corner of Front and Bluff streets. In 1940, he moved downstate to work in an auto plant in Pontiac.

In early 1942, shortly after the war started, William returned home to Marquette where he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps on March 29, 1942.

Early training in the Air Corps was at Keesler Field, Mississippi. He was later transferred to Bakersfield, California.

On April 5, 1943, he was killed in a crash of a BT-13 near Delano, California.

TJ Mudge, Mar. 2005