

## B-17 TAILGUNNER

The Collins Foundation brings planes into the Pasco airport once a year or so. Last year - 2008 - my wife and I went to the exhibition. We wore the T-shirts my daughters had made for us to wear to the 34th Bomb Group reunions, which have my picture, in uniform, and that of the crew on the front and back.



**Floyd Richmond (Rich) Tail gunner - B-17 1944 - 34th BG**

This attracted attention and conversation. One young mother, with a couple of youngsters in tow, turned to them and said, "Here's a real live person who flew in these planes." That "made my day."

Floyd Richmond, 34th BG  
Pasco, WA



### Mendlesham

Back row L to R:

Abe Firestone, Jim Sain, Hugh Goerner, Don Stufflebeam, Tony Scimica

Front row:

Floyd Shilke, Ed Durbin, Floyd Richmond, Harry Hoffman  
Jim Sain's crew #13 - 4th Sqdn.

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE

The Ivan L. McKinney family continues the legacy of military service begun by Ivan's father, who served in France during WWI as an Infantryman. Ivan is a retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel, having served for 27 years as an enlisted man and as an officer. He was an air traffic controller and a navigator who accumulated more than 4,000 hours in aerial refueling aircraft (KC-97 and KC-135) and was an officer in various fields. The McKinney's son, Blaine is a Boeing 757 Captain for Northwest Airlines. He retired as a Major from the Air Force Reserve after 15 year's service, accumulating over 2,000 hours as a pilot of aerial refueling aircraft (KC-135 and KC-10). Blaine's eldest son, Austin, is a junior at the Air Force Academy and is currently ranked #1 in his class of 1,000 cadets. Another son, Connor, is a high school senior who will be entering West Point this summer as a freshman cadet.

Ivan says that he is very proud of the fact that five of his six sons have served our country in the military, with two of the five serving until retirement. Ivan's last Assignment was as a staff officer at 8th Air Force Headquarters, from which he retired almost 33 years ago. He and his wife of almost 55 years, Mary, have made Bossier City, LA, their home. Most readers of the 8th AF News will remember him as Treasurer of the 8th Air Force Historical Society for five years and as President for the last three years.



**Pictured (L-R) Ivan McKinney, Blaine McKinney, Air Force Academy Cadet Second Class Austin McKinney, and to-be West Point Cadet Class of 2013, Connor McKinney**

It is good for a man to be brought once, at least, in his life, face to face with the fact, ultimate fact, however horrible it may be; and have to confess to himself, shuddering, what things are possible on God's earth.

**Charles Kingsley**

For it is a disease that somehow inheres in tyranny to have no faith in friends.

**Aeschylus, Prom. 226**