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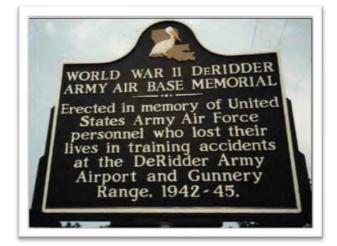
2 LT Frank E. Argenio Class 44-42

ID: 01175027 Branch of Service: U.S. Army

Hometown: Fairfield County, CT Status: DNB September 17, 1943



The (8th Armored) Division assembled on the parade ground at North Camp Polk on Memorial Day, 1944, to honor the memory of 32 of their comrades who died in training since 4 March 1943. The traditional three volleys were fired by Company C, 49th Armored Infantry Battalion, following the reading of General Order Number 2, dated 30 May 1944, by Lieutenant Colonel David L. Hariston, Division Adjutant General. A moment of silent prayer was offered in memory of the 32 individuals including: Second Lieutenant Frank E. Argenio, Headquarters Battery, 399th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (17 September 1943)



World War II DeRidder Army Air Base Memorial is located on Hwy 190 West, (Atakapa Coushatta Trace) just north of the Beauregard Parish Airport. The Army Air Force (AAF) was organized in June 1941 and by December 25, 1941, the first unit arrived at the DeRidder Army Air Base (DAAB).

Not all airmen boarded the train to start the long journey overseas. While serving their country, 35 men lost their lives in training accidents in and around the DeRidder Army Airport and Gunner Range that is located south of Merryville, 1942 - 1945. Such accidents resulted in men succumbing to death by "burning in airplane," "hung in tree after airplane crash," "air accidents," and other accidents.