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Captain Ruder Of Nekoosa Dies in Action

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Capt. Leroy A. Ruder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert S. Ruder, Nekoosa, was killed in action on June 6, 1944, in the European theater of operations, according to word received by the parents from the war department. The German government had notified the International Red Cross of the Nekoosa flier's death. **Previously Reported Missing**

Captain Ruder, a P-51 Mustang pilot, had previously been reported as missing in action.

He was born in Nekoosa, May 28, 1921. He attended Alexander high school in Nekoosa, served as class president his senior year and was graduated in 1939. Before enlisting in the army air corps, he was employed by the Nekoosa-Edwards Paper company.

Enlisting as an air cadet in 1942, the Nekoosa airman left for service on August 29. He received his wings and commission as a second lieutenant at Luke field, Ariz., May, 1943. Assigned to an overseas post, he reached England in November, 1943.

At the time of his death, Captain Ruder had over 150 hours of combat flying and was designated an "ace," with five German planes confirmed, plus 3 1/2 probables. He had received the Air Medal and three Oak Leaf clusters.

Captain Ruder is survived by his parents and two brothers, Vernon and Clarence Ruder.

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