

## 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Ludlow E. Richter

Born Jan 2, 1924

Died: Oct 20, 1945

Period of Service: WW II  
Source: Monument, B10F2,  
John Enigl Memorial Day  
talk, Cemetery 010 04, Am  
Legion Scrapbook – box 17

Entered service 12/8/1942

He was born at Egeland Hospital in Sturgeon Bay. Attended school on Island until freshman year which was spent at Kewaunee High School, but came back to Island to graduate, and was valedictorian. Then went to Oshkosh State Teachers College, but enlisted in Army Air Corps on June 18, 1944. While waiting for his call, he worked on the Ferry Line for Arni Richter.

He received his pre-flight training at Santa Ana, CA, and his basic training at Lemmore, CA and advanced training at La Junta, CA. He got his wings there as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Then he trained with a replacement unit in Texas and on November 2, 1944 he was sent in a C 47 as a transport pilot. He was in the Troop Carrier Command Squadron # 63. He flew in New Guinea, the Spice Islands, Leyte, and Okinawa before going to Japan. He was made First Lieutenant on May, 24, 1945.

On October 20, 1945 he was the pilot on a routine flight after the war was over, when his plane crashed, killing him. He was buried in the cemetery on January 13, 1949 after a ceremony in the Legion Hall. He was the 60<sup>th</sup> Door County fatality, and Washington Island's only fatality of World War Two. The American Legion Post 402 was renamed the Gislason-Richter Post in his honor.

He wrote from the Philippines, "My Christmas was not so pleasant as I spent the night in a foxhole wishing I were some place else. That is the only bombing I have been in up to date, and I'm not anxious for any more, believe me.....We have flown in some spots that will always be remembered, sadly remembered, in American history books. I have seen many of the bloody battle grounds of the SouthWest Pacific, and it gives me a funny feeling, knowing that men fought and died there for what they believed."

His parents were Earl Ludlow Richter and Wilhelmina (Minnie) Theodora Jessen who were married on August 16, 1911.

Picture on reverse page.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt Ludlow E. Richter**



cture on reverse page.