

Charles O. Cramer Jr.



Charles Oliver Cramer, Jr. was a native of Akron, Ohio, born October 12, 1919 to Charles and Octave (Teague) Cramer. He graduated with the class of 1937 from Buchtel High School and went on the Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio. During his senior year at college, he was accepted into the United States Army Air Corps Aviation cadet Program.

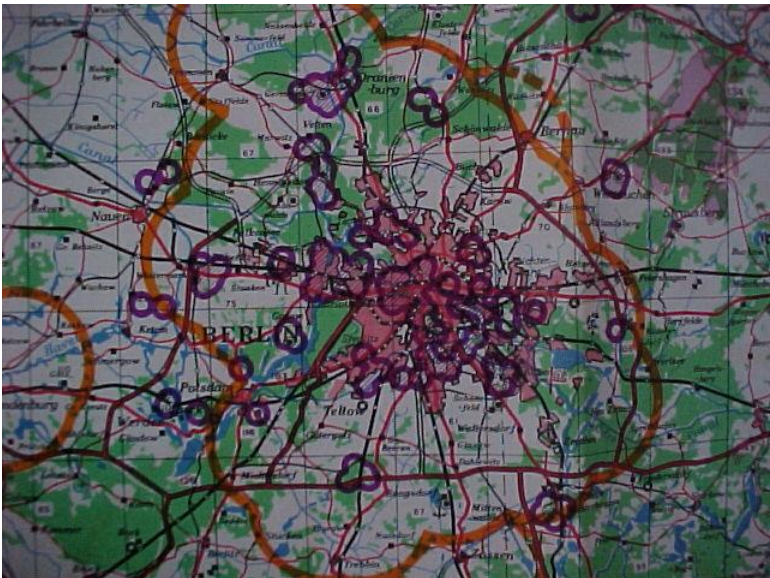
After graduation from the Oxnard Flying School in California and with national attention focused on Pearl Harbor and the United States declaration of war, he volunteered for Advanced flying School at Kelly Field (now Kelly Air Force Base) in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated in February of 1942 with a 2nd Lieutenant's commission.

He was assigned to the 305th Bomb Group located in Salt Lake City, Utah and trained in both the B-24 Liberator and the B-17 Flying Fortress.

After receiving his pilot's wings (presented to him by movie star Rosalind Russell) and with the rank of Captain, Cramer was dispatched to Chelveston, England with the 305th Bomb Group, now part of the 8th Air Force as the pilot of a B-17.



As a group commander, he led 25 missions over Europe before returning to the United States where he finished out the war as a flight instructor.



Returning to Akron and dusting off his degree in Business Administration, Cramer began a career in advertising in Akron

Advertising Art (now Hitchcock-Fleming) and continued in the advertising field with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. He retired in 1984 with 23 years of service. He then launched into a retirement career of volunteerism with numerous agencies including Meals of Wheels, American Cancer Society, Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice, transporting the ill and the elderly while entertaining them with his acerbic wit and humor.

Charles Oliver Cramer, Jr. died on June 9, 2006 after a long battle with cancer and other complications.