

## Arthur Wudtke

Arthur Wudtke was 20 when he was drafted. He served from July of 1942 to April of 1946.

He started out in the medics attached to the Air Corps, and then after the Battle of the Bulge, was transferred to infantry.

Mr. Wudtke started his training at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis, Mo., and was transferred to Randolph Field in Texas where he went to school for aviation medicine.

When he was finished with his schooling, he went back to Jefferson Barracks, where he started giving physicals to pilots.

"This was when they were losing so many pilots in Europe and the Pacific," he said.

In February of 1944, he was transferred to Chanute Field in Illinois.

When the Battle of the Bulge happened in November 1944, he was sent to be a rifleman in the infantry.

Training lasted for six weeks. He went to Fort Meade in Baltimore, then New Jersey and then he was shipped to Europe.

"I wasn't in any big battles," he said. "I only saw about two months of combat in Germany."

Mr. Wudtke fought in the 14th Armored Division. After the war was over, he said he spent



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about a month in a small town in Germany and then went to Munich.

"I didn't have enough points to go home," he said. "So when the 14th was shipped back, I was transferred to the 10th Armored Division. I was there for about three weeks when they went home.

I still didn't have enough points so I was transferred to the 9th Infantry Division and then to the 71st. I came home with them.

He said his homecoming was nothing unusual because it was about 10 months after the war ended. For two months after he got home, he didn't really do anything.

Then he went back to work for Columbia Steel Tank in Kansas City, where he was working before he was drafted. Mr. Wudtke ended up working for them for 38 years and retired in 1983.

He said he was raised in the area, but left in 1941 when he couldn't find a job.

He came back in March of 2001 after his wife died in 1999. He has two brothers and two sisters who live here.

He married his wife Elaine in 1948. They had one daughter. He has two grandchildren, one boy and one girl.

Mr. Wudtke lives at the Norton Manor in Norton.

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THE NORTON  
**TELEGRAM**

## PROUDLY THEY SERVED

*There is no greater act of honor  
and courage than serving  
one's country in battle.*



We proudly salute all those who have fought for freedom and thank them for defending the ideals of our nation.

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**TELEGRAM**

# SO PROUDLY YOU SERVED

*We remember those who served with honor and courage and we remember those who gave their lives to defend our freedom. May we never take for granted the important contribution these brave men and women have made to this great nation.*



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*Remembering  
Our*  
**VETERANS**



Veterans of  
Foreign Wars