



TO HONOR

CHARLES W. KING

1919 – 2000

For his outstanding service in war and peace. As a 2nd Lt fighter pilot in 1942, he pioneered combat tactics in the SW Pacific. In 1943, as the 39th Ftr Sqdn Commander, Major Charlie King led his P-38 Lightning unit to over 100 victories and became an ace with five kills in crucial battles over Rabaul. He was an icon of combat leadership, tactics and competence. Loyal and supportive to the men in his units, an enduring friend to his war buddies. He later flew over 100 F-86 missions over Korea, was a test pilot and gunnery team leader. In peace, he was active in the American Aces and 39th Fighter Squadron Association, in his church, and in his community. His life was marked with humility, integrity, courage, and the highest standards of duty and honor.

A Worthy Exemplar of "The Greatest Generation"

By Frank Royal, 39th Fighter Association Archivist and Charlie's son, Gary King

DONORS

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