



BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

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Payton H. Lyle, Sr.

Payton H. Lyle, nicknamed Pat, was born in Okolona, Mississippi, on May 5, 1917. In 1935, he graduated from Okolona Industrial School where his hobby of woodworking was developed. After his High School graduation, Pat attended Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial (A&I), Nashville, TN, now known as Tennessee State University (TSU) from 1935-1939. While attending TSU, he was a Pre-Med student and pledged the Kappa Alpha Psi Greek organization (1939).



After TSU, Pat was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1941. For the convenience of the Government, and to accept appointment to Second Lieutenant in 1942, Pat was honorably discharged. From 1942-1943, he served as the Automotive Maintenance Officer, 26th Quarter Master Regiment, San Francisco, California and at Fort Lewis, near Tacoma, Washington. He supervised 98-Enlisted Motor Pool personnel and was responsible for managing and maintaining 85-Vehicles



and keeping them in operational mission capable status. In 1942, Pat and Adelaide Henry were married.

In late 1943, 2 LT Lyle was selected for and began Pilot Training at Moton Field, Alabama. He graduated from Pilot Training in 1944. [He's pictured in 2d row center under the statue of Booker T. Washington]. After successfully completing Pilot Training School and earning his Wings, 2 LT Lyle was selected for B-25 Transition School training and was reassigned to Godman Field, Kentucky, where he completed his B-25 Twin Engine Bomber training. He was subsequently transferred to Freeman Field, Indiana, where he was attached to the 618th Bombardment Squadron, 477th Bombardment Group. WWII ended in 1945 and in 1946, 1 LT Lyle was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army Air Corps. Following his separation from the U.S. Army Air Corps, LT Lyle was asked to return to duty and become an Instructor. He decided to forego the opportunity and instead served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves until being honorably discharged in 1957. Upon his discharge, he received the WWII Victory Medal and the American Theater Ribbon.



Later in his life, 1 LT Pat Lyle worked as a Punch Press Operator. As an Army trained Motor Pool Specialist Supervisor, he continued working on Vehicles as well and specialized in Automotive Upholstering until formally retiring in 1967. Mr. Lyle was married to Ms. Adelaide Henry. From their union, Payton H. Lyle, Jr. and Undine Maria Lyle-Stinnette were born and a grandson (Isaac Arnold Stinnette, Jr.). Documented Original Tuskegee Airmen Lyle joined the Lonely Eagle Chapter in 1974.

