



# BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

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Tuskegee, AL 36083

## Albert H. Manning Jr.



Albert Henry Manning, Jr. was born in Hartsville, South Carolina, on March 22, 1917. He graduated from South Carolina State College. After graduation, he was the co-director of the National Youth Administration at Brainard Institute. The Presbyterian Church USA established the Brainard Institute as an elite school for African Americans.

The Brainard Institute offered all grades through high school. Its students went on to excel at colleges all over the country, including Johnson C. Smith University, Benedict College, and Howard University. In its later days, the Brainard Institute became a junior college focused on teacher training. The last class graduated from Brainard in 1939.

Albert H. Manning Jr. registered for the draft on October 16, 1940, at Finley High School in Chester, S.C. He entered the Army at Fort Jackson, SC, and graduated from Tuskegee's class 43E single engine on May 28, 1943, as a Second Lieutenant.

In November of 1944, Captain Manning of the 99th Fighter Squadron flew with the 332nd Fighter Group on a strafing mission in the Gyron-Vienna Esztergom area of Austria. The mission targeted enemy railways, highways, and river locations. During the mission, two P51s were shot down by heavy flak from anti-aircraft guns. For this mission, Major General Nathan F. Twining, Commander of the Fifteenth Air Force, awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross to Captain Manning and three other pilots for their heroism and extraordinary achievement during the aerial flight. The Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded to any service member who distinguishes himself in support of operations through heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight. Captain Manning remained in the Air Force following the war.

On January 28, 1951, he was the co-pilot of an Air Force C-45 passenger plane that developed engine trouble and crashed into a pineapple orchard five miles east of Oak Harbor, Ohio. There were no survivors.

