

Robert Walter Hortman was the son of Jacob and Jessie Hortman, born in Trenton, New Jersey, August 31, 1925. Bob learned to fly at Mercer Airport and soloed at sixteen. Even though, as a child, Bob suffered from polio, which left his left arm somewhat smaller than the right arm, the 8th Army accepted him for World War II service in the Army Air Corps. Although, unable to fly because of his disability, he was stationed in Wiesbaden, Germany as an aircraft mechanic. Bob returned home after the war, married and started a family. He continued his passion of flying the rest of his life. Star # 43 was incised on the cenotaph of the American Legion Centennial Memorial by his daughter, Dawn Hortman Shaw of Summerville, South Carolina.

