



## Arthur Leiszler

*Army Air Corps*

## Arthur Leiszler

Jul 12, 1916 - Aug 19, 1973

**BIRTHPLACE:** Clara, KS

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### SOLDIER DETAILS

**HIGHEST RANK:** Staff Sgt.

**DIVISION:** Army Air Corps, 8th Air Force in  
England; 95th Bomb Group

**THEATER OF OPERATION:** European

**SERVED:** Feb 6, 1942 - Sep 10, 1945

**HONORED BY:** Janet Leiszler Whitehair

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### BIOGRAPHY

Arthur John Leiszler was the youngest of five children born to Arthur Charles and Grace Estelle Howley Leiszler on July 12, 1916. He was raised in the little town of Strawberry in Washington County, Kansas. He was baptized at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Clara, Kansas, and later was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Clifton, Kansas. In Strawberry his parents operated a dry goods store, a skating rink that converted to a dance hall on Saturday nights, and a service station. Arthur John followed in his father's footsteps in the service station business. He owned and operated a Phillips 66 station in Clifton, Kansas before, during, and after the war from 1933 until his death. Arthur John enlisted at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on February 6, 1942 and subsequently was stationed at Wichita Falls, Texas; Tucson, Arizona, and Yakima, Washington prior to his departure for England where he served in the European Theater of Operations. He was discharged from the service from Fort Leavenworth as a Staff Sergeant on September 10, 1945. He remained close to his Army buddies, even naming his first-born son after his good friend, Vern Dean. Names we find in the address book he carried during the war include Anthony Gieber, Leonard Kennedy, Al Ferguson, William Harden, Taylor Thurman, Leo Erickson, David Durston, Gene Fuchs, and others. Arthur John married Stella Comeau in Clyde, Kansas on July 10, 1945. They had four children; Richard Dean, Janet Louise, Joseph Charles, and Phyllis Jo Ann. Arthur John and Stella raised their family in Clifton, Kansas where he continued to operate his Phillips 66 service station and a liquor store. Stella operated a beauty shop from her home. Arthur John died of cancer on August 19, 1973 at the age of 57. As of this writing in May of 2005, his widow, Stella Leiszler Holt, resides in Abilene, Kansas. Richard lives in Emporia, Kansas. Janet Whitehair lives near Abilene, Kansas. Joe lives in Americus, Kansas. Phyllis Johnsen lives in Wesley Chapel, Florida.