



**Lee  
McClure**

*Army Air Corps*

## **Lee McClure**

**Sep 16, 1923 - Jan 15, 1946**

**BIRTHPLACE: Perry County, KY**

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### **SOLDIER DETAILS**

**HIGHEST RANK: Lieutenant**

**DIVISION: Army Air Corps, 878th squadron, 499th  
Bmb. Gp.**

**THEATER OF OPERATION: Pacific**

**SERVED: Feb 1, 1943 -**

**HONORED BY: Wife Irene McClure-Swenson**

**KILLED IN ACTION**

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### **BIOGRAPHY**

McClure received his wings when he graduated from Marfa, Texas, AAF pilot school. He also trained at Lancaster, California, Roswell, New Mexico, Salina, Kansas, Herington, Kansas, and Lincoln, Nebraska. His B-29 was hit by enemy fire over Nagoya, Japan and went down in the sea near the Marianas Islands on January 14, 1945. Upon hitting the water, the B-29 broke in half. LT McClure assumed control and directed the four surviving crew members to the raft. LT McClure entered the sinking aircraft in an effort to save the trapped airplane commander and waist gunners. He was not seen again by the surviving crew members. He was declared dead January 15, 1946. LT McClure was posthumously awarded the Soldiers Medal.