



BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Public Relations, P.O. Box 830060
Tuskegee, AL 36083

George L. Bing



George Leonard Bing was born in Brooklyn, New York, on February 27, 1923, to Alonzo Bing and Ethel Henry. His father served in the US Navy during World War I. In the 1940 US Census, Alonzo's Father was listed as an "automotive mechanic" and his Mother as working as a "floor lady" in "shoe manufacturing". Mr. Bing had an older brother, Alonzo Jr. George married Ann B. Bing and they had a son, George L. Bing, Jr.

Mr. Bing served as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army Air Corp from Jan 1943 to April 1948 (second enlistment). He was a P51 Fighter Pilot in the European Theatre attached to the 332nd Fighter Group. Second Lieutenant Bing said that some Black Fighter Pilots were called the "Schwarze Vogelmenschen" (Black Birdmen) by the Germans, who both feared and respected them. While American Bomber Crews reverently referred to them as "The Black Redtail Angels" because of the identifying red paint on their tail assemblies, Mr. Bing also said that the "Tuskegee Airmen had a reputation for not losing bombers to enemy fighters as they provided escort to bombing missions over strategic targets" although they did lose some to enemy fire in WWII.

After the War, Mr. Bing returned to the civilian sector and operated a successful Photo Studio in Brooklyn. He was the Brooklyn College Photographer and a special exhibition of his works was held February – April 2008 at the College. He was inducted into the Brooklyn Tech Alumni Hall of Fame in 2013. In the 1990s, he was President of the Claude B. Govan Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Incorporated. In 2007, six decades after the War, and three years after Bing's death, the Tuskegee Airmen were honored with the nation's highest civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Bing, died on May 19, 2004 at the age of 81. He is buried in the Veterans Calverton National Cemetery in Calverton, Long Island.

To learn more about Mr. George Bing and other activities that he participated in, please visit the National Tuskegee Airmen Website at the following location: www.TuskegeeAirmen.org.

