

JUNE, 1950

Arlington Burial For Elkader Hero

Special to the Gazette.

ELKADER—Committal services for Capt. John M. Hommel, U.S.A.F., son of Dr. and Mrs. P.R.V. Hommel of Elkader, will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. in Arlington National cemetery, Arlington, Va.

Dr. and Mrs. Hommel will leave Sunday for Washington to be present at the service.

Captain Hommel was born in Elkader on Feb. 27, 1920, and was graduated from Elkader high school in 1937 and from Elkader Junior college in 1939. The following year he attended the University of Iowa, and in 1941 he was appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

He was graduated from West Point in June, 1943, and received his commission as a second lieutenant.

Captain Hommel was assigned to duty with the 15th A.A.F. and was one of the pilots making the first shuttle bombing trip to Russia when he was shot down July 18, 1944, while flying over Memmingen, Germany, after participating in 33 raids.

He was awarded the purple heart, the distinguished flying cross and the air medal with two oak leaf clusters for his service.

He was commissioned a captain on Aug. 7, 1944.

Captain Hommel is survived by a son, John Hommel, who was born July 27, 1944, his wife of Cresco, and one brother, William of Elkader.