

10/24/2008 Moran Honors WWII P.O.W. Boyd Fox in Medal Ceremony

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PLAINS- In a ceremony honoring Boyd C. Fox, an Army Air Corp Veteran and World War II (WWII) Prisoner of War (P.O.W.), Congressman Jerry Moran presented six medals to Fox for his honor and service to his country. Students, community leaders, residents, family members and friends of Fox gathered at Plains Elementary School to observe the ceremony this week. During the ceremony, Fox was presented with the Good Conduct Medal, the Air Medal, the European/African/Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Prisoner of War Medal and an Honorable Service Lapel Button.

"The dedication that our men and women demonstrate by serving their country will always be remembered and recognized by our nation," Moran said. "I was grateful to be able to participate in such an honorable occasion recognizing a patriotic and brave soldier. It was a proud moment for Boyd and his family, and I was honored to join in that piece of history."

"I was very pleased to receive the medals. It was the first time I met Congressman Moran, and I enjoyed that too," said Fox. "I was happy with the way that everything turned out and how many of my friends and family were able to come. I felt very honored."

As a B-17 co-pilot during WWII, Fox flew bombing missions out of England to Cologne, Hamburg, Frankfurt and Munster, Germany. After returning from a successful mission on November 6, 1944, his plane caught fire forcing him and the flight crew to bail out. That day, Fox was captured by German soldiers, becoming a WWII P.O.W. During the next five months as a P.O.W., Fox was transitioned to several prison camps. On April 29, 1945, General George Patton and his troops liberated Fox and the other P.O.W.'s at Moosburg. He returned to the U.S. on June 5, 1945.

Fox was born on May 24, 1922, south of Plains, Kansas, to Boyd C. and Lillie Fox. He attended Kansas State University, and on September 10, 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Corp at Ft. Riley, after passing the aviation cadet training exam. On June 7, 1944, he married his "sweetheart" Margaret Michael. As a member of the Army Air Corp, he received military and flight training in St. Louis, Missouri, Wisconsin, California and Arizona.

Fox currently resides in Plains, Kansas, where he has farmed and ranched since 1945 with his wife Margaret. They have a daughter and two grandchildren. They lost their son, Larry Fox, in December of 1969 to cancer.

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