



Steve Snyder Releases New 306th Book on the *Susan Ruth*

By Vernon L. Williams
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This is no ordinary memoir of a World War II father. The literature of the Second World War is filled with volumes written by sons and daughters, nieces and nephews who step into the shoes of the historian, hoping to preserve a small piece of their family's history. Only a few are successful. With *Shot Down* and the story of the Flying Fortress *Susan Ruth*, Steve Snyder has reached a level of scholarship few amateur historians achieve. Snyder's story of his father and the *Susan Ruth* crew provides valuable details about many aspects of the war: the American home front, separation for young families, training, combat operations, bailing out behind enemy lines, the underground, German atrocities, and behind-the-scenes stories of Belgium civilians who risked all to save American flyers.

This is a story that all young Americans should read so that they can learn about the price of victory over the tyranny that was Hitler's Europe. As each generation comes and goes, World War II fades further into the annals of history. *Shot Down* keeps the story of real people alive for generations of Americans, many who are not yet born. If we can learn from the lessons in the *Susan Ruth* story, we can apply those experiences to our own future, and our nation will be the better for it.

Visit Steve Snyder's website and order the book.

Website: <http://SteveSnyderAuthor.com>

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At age 74 John Wohead's work began to wind down as he entered a new stage in his life. Later he moved back to the United States and spent much of his time with family, staying with his sister Mary Burk for 19 summers. He died on November 16, 2011. He was 95 years old. The curtain had closed on two significant missions in his life. The first he helped secure the victory in Europe against the Nazi tyranny in Europe. The second was a mission of community to East Africa where he made a lasting and continuing difference in the lives of countless African families. In the early years of his retirement, he once remarked that "these past 40 years of mission work went by very quickly. It seems like only yesterday."



Wohead family gathers at the end of the war for a wedding celebration. Three Wohead sisters are Mary Wohead Burk (left), Anna (3rd from left), and Veronica (4th from left and bride). John Wohead (306th BG-3rd from right) and brother Mike (2nd from right)—engineering officer who built airfields in England and Europe during the war). Bottom: The cathedral in Shinyanga built by John Wohead and his African crew.

