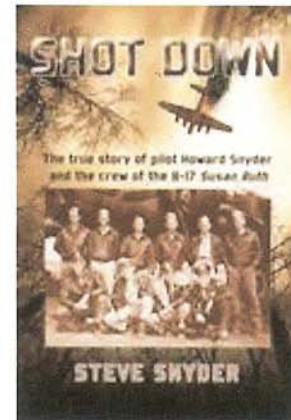


NOTE: Steve's parents, Howard and Ruth Snyder, were founding members of Christ Lutheran and 25 year residents (1982-2007) of Sedona living in the VOC until 2004 and then at Sedona Winds.



## SHOT DOWN BOOK OVERVIEW

Steve Snyder's book, **Shot Down** is about pilot Howard Snyder and his crew of the B-17 *Susan Ruth*, in particular about the dramatic experiences of each crew member after their plane was knocked out of the sky by German fighters over the French/Belgium border on February 8, 1944. Some men died. Some were captured and became prisoners of war. Some evaded the Germans for awhile but were betrayed, captured, and shot. Some men evaded capture and were missing in action for seven months. The stories are all different and are all remarkable.

Through personal letters, oral and written accounts, military records, and interviews – all from people who took part of the events that happened 70 years ago, the stories of the crewmen comes alive. Further enhancing the story are more than 200 time period photographs of the people and places described in the book.

However even before the dramatic battle in the air and the subsequent harrowing events on the ground, the story is informative, insightful, and captivating. Prior to the fateful event, the book outlines the men's training, their journey to England, their life while stationed there, and their combat missions. Everything is centered around the 306<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group stationed at Thurleigh, England of which the crew of the *Susan Ruth* was a part.

To add background and context, many historical facts about the war are entwined throughout the story so that the reader has a feel for and understanding of what was occurring on a broader scale. Thus, the book is a fascinating story about brave individuals, featuring pilot Howard Snyder, set within the compelling events of the war in Europe. You will be given an insider's seat to the hopes, dreams and fears of a remarkable group of young airmen and the brave Belgian people that loved, cared and risked their lives for them.

In 1989, a memorial to the crew of the *Susan Ruth* was dedicated at Macquenoise, Belgium and every year celebrations are held to honor and remember the men who are now all gone but not forgotten.

*Shot Down* is now available for pre-order on Amazon.com at a significantly discounted price. The print edition of the book has more than 200 time period photographs of the people who were involved and the places where their stories took place.