

NORTON AIR FORCE BASE

The San Bernardino Air Material Command was named for a San Bernardino boy in 1950, six years after he died in action over France.

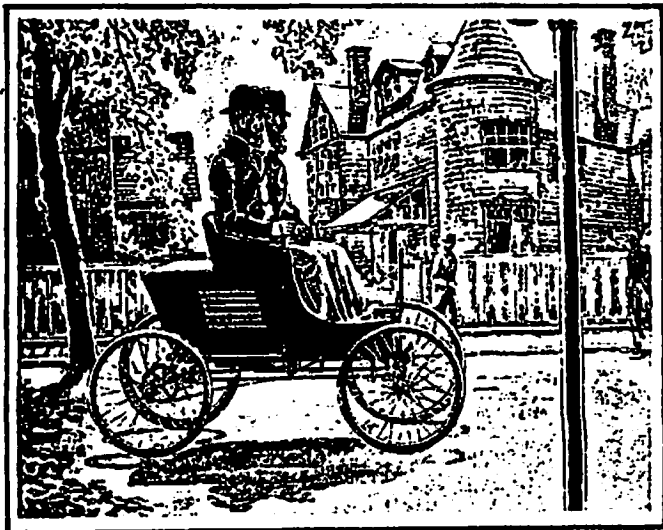
Leland Francis Norton was born March 12, 1921 in San Bernardino. He attended Eliot Arrowview, San Bernardino High and Valley College. In the fall of 1941 he joined the Canadian Air Force, before the United States became actively engaged in WW II.

In March, 1942, he transferred to the U.S. Air Force and was sent first to Maine and then to Greenland, where he participated in rescue work. He applied for combat, and was trained during the summer of 1943.

On May 27, 1944, he was killed in action over Amiens, France. He and a crew of three were flying an A-20 bomber, dive-bombing to attack a target, when their plane was hit. Both engines were blown off and two of the crew bailed out. Norton and another crew member bailed out moments later, but drifted to the ground along with the remains of their plane, which was very light in weight due to so much of it being shot away.

As they landed near the remains of the plane, the bombs attached to it exploded, killing Norton and his companion.

(Guideposts to History, by Elizabeth W. Richards, 1975 edition, copyrighted by the author.)



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

Our meeting dates for 1982 are:

- Wednesday, Apr. 7 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , Apr. 28 - DIRECTORS MEETING
- " , May 5 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , June 2 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , July 7 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , July 28 - DIRECTORS MEETING
- " , Aug. 4 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , Sept. 1 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , Oct. 6 - REGULAR MEETING
- " , Oct. 27 - DIRECTORS MEETING
- " , Nov. 3 - REGULAR MEETING
(Nominations-election of Directors)
- " , Nov. 24 - DIRECTORS MEETING
(Nominations-election of Officers)
- " , Dec. 1 - REGULAR MEETING

All meetings will be held in the COMMUNITY ROOM of the downtown public library, located at 4th & Arrowhead Streets, starting at 12:00 Noon. A special program will follow each business meeting. When our new meeting hall is completed sometime in 1982, members will be notified.