



# **SHOT DOWN: The true story of pilot Howard Snyder and the crew of the B-17 Susan Ruth**

*Steve Snyder*

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## **Belgium ... February 8, 1944 ... Shot Down and Alive**

For the first time, the full and complete story of the B-17 Flying Fortress *Susan Ruth* is shared in **unbelievable detail**. Author Steve Snyder's story of his father, Lieutenant Howard Snyder, and the *Susan Ruth* crew, provides in-depth details about many aspects of World War II few understand or know about including the:

- separation for young families as men went off to war;
- training before heading to foreign soil;
- military combat operations;
- underground and resistance and what Lt. Snyder did when he joined it;
- German atrocities toward captured crew and civilians;
- behind-the-scenes stories of the Belgium civilians who risked all to save American flyers who were in the air one moment, spiraling down in flames the next;
- creation and dedication of the monument to the Susan Ruth and its crew located in Macquenoise, Belgium in 1989

**Shot Down** was created from the vast number of letters and journals of Howard Snyder; diaries of men and women on the ground who rescued, sheltered and hid the crew; and interviews conducted by historians. Centered around the 306th Bomb Group in Thurleigh, England, **it is informative, insightful and captivating.**

For most, 70 years is a long time ago. World War II fades in importance as each year goes by. **Shot Down** moves history out of the footnotes into reality, keeping the stories of real people alive as they experience being shot down. **You are there**, almost holding your breath as Lt. Snyder gets his crew out of his B-17 when bailing out over Nazi occupied Europe.

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