

## FIRST LIEUTENANT GARDNER P. ALLEN US Army (Deceased)



1LT Gardner Allen was an Observer with the 8<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, Coast Artillery Corps. He entered service on 27 November 1917. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in France in 1918. His citation read:

“For extraordinary heroism in action near Thiaucourt, France, October 9, 1918. He, as an observer with 1LT Edward Russell Moore [HOF 1988], observer, took advantage of a short period of fair weather during generally unfavorable atmospheric conditions to undertake a photographic mission behind German lines. Accompanied by two protecting planes, they had just commenced their mission when they were attacked by eight enemy planes which followed them throughout their course, firing at the photographic plane. 1LT Moore, pilot, with both flying wires cut by bullets, a landing wire shot away, his elevators riddled with bullets, and both wings punctured, continued on the prescribed course, although it made him an easy target.

1LT Allen was thus enabled in the midst of the attack to take pictures of the exact territory assigned, and he made no attempt to protect the plane with his machine guns. Displaying entire disregard for personal danger, and steadfast devotion to duty, these two officers successfully accomplished their mission.”

1LT Allen was discharged on 16 July 1919. He died in 1963. He was posthumously inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1988.



**8<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, Saizerais Aerodrome, France, 11 November 1918**