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Alfred Franke

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Alfred Franke (20 September 1918 – 9 September 1942) was a German Luftwaffe ace and recipient of the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross during World War II. The Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross was awarded to recognise extreme battlefield bravery or successful military leadership. On 9 September 1942, Alfred Franke was killed north of Stalingrad after dog-fighting with a Soviet Il-2 Shturmovik flown by *Kapitan* Pavel S. Vinogradov.[1] He was posthumously awarded the Knight's Cross on 29 October 1942 and was also promoted to Lieutenant. During his career he was credited with 60 aerial victories. 4 on the Western Front and 56 on the Eastern Front.

Alfred Franke	
Born	20 September 1918 Jena
Died	9 September 1942 (aged 23) Stalingrad
Allegiance	Nazi Germany
Branch	Luftwaffe
Years of service	?-1942
Rank	*Leutnant* (posthumously)
Unit	JG 53
Battles / wars	World War II • Battle of France • Battle of Britain • Operation Barbarossa • Siege of Leningrad
Awards	Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross

Summary of career [edit]

According to US historian David T. Zabecki, Franke was credited with 60 aerial victories.[2]

Awards [edit]

- Front Flying Clasp of the Luftwaffe
- Iron Cross (1939) 2nd Class & 1st Class
- Ehrenpokal der Luftwaffe on 13 September 1942 as *Oberfeldwebel* and pilot[3]
- German Cross in Gold on 25 September 1942 as *Oberfeldwebel* in the I./*Jagdgeschwader* 53[4]
- Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross on 29 October 1942 as *Oberfeldwebel* and pilot in the 2./*Jagdgeschwader* 53[5][6]

References [edit]

Citations [edit]

1. ^ Bergström et al. 2006, p. 46.
2. ^ Zabecki 2014, p. 1617.
3. ^ Patzwall 2008, p. 79.
4. ^ Patzwall & Scherzer 2001, p. 119.
5. ^ Fellgiebel 2000, p. 185.
6. ^ Scherzer 2007, p. 316.

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V · T · E Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross recipients of *Jagdgeschwader* 53 [show]
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