

F/O Peter Gordon Anderson J/36360 RCAF



Flying Officer Peter Anderson was born on 4 April 1923 in Oshawa, Durham, Ontario to John Colborne and Lillian Cristabel 'Betty' Anderson, of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Peter was the pilot of 50 Squadron Lancaster LL741 (squadron code: VN-X) on the night of 21/22 February 1945. Taking off from RAF Skellingthorpe, Lincoln, the crew joined some 165 Lancasters and 12 Mosquitoes of 5 Group on a successful mission to destroy part of the Mittelland Canal near Osnabruck in Germany.

His Lancaster was believed to have been hit by flak shortly after it had delivered its bombs, although it was able to begin the return journey. Whilst over south-east Holland it was attacked by a German night fighter causing further damage. Peter gave the order to abandon the aircraft. Six of the 7 crew members, including Peter, unfortunately perished.

The others lost with Peter were the navigator P/O Roy Campbell RCAF, air gunner Sgt. Fred Langton, air bomber Flt. Sgt. Denis McCauley, air gunner P/O Donald McFadyen RCAF and wireless operator P/O Ward Southcott RCAF.

He is buried in Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, the Netherlands, in Grave XV. D. 8.

Peter was 21 years old and his name can be found on panel 002.

Photo Source: aircrewremembered.com