

## Sgt. John Neville Andrew 1461939 RAFVR

John Andrew was the bomb-aimer of a 550 Squadron Lancaster lost during a raid in March 1944.

He joined 550 at RAF North Killingholme with his crew in early February 1944 and was killed six weeks later during a raid on Stuttgart.

John and his crew were on board Lancaster III LM392 BQ-J, which left North Killingholme at 1910 hours on the evening of 15 March, as part of a force of 863 Bomber Command aircraft tasked with attacking the southern German city.

It would appear his aircraft was intercepted by a night fighter flown by Uffz Robert Koch and shot down, crashing near the small French village of Artolsheim, right on the French-German border and within a couple of miles of the Rhine. There were no survivors and all seven crew members were later buried in Artolsheim Communal Cemetery, where a memorial plaque to the crew stands at the gate and urges all those who pass by to remember the sacrifice the seven young men from North Killingholme made to ensure their freedom.

John came from Dartford in Kent. He was 22 and the son of Neville and Eva Andrew.

Those killed with him were the pilot Flt. Lt. Jack Crawford, flight engineer Sgt. John Powell, navigator F/O Patrick Lockton, wireless operator Sgt. William Green, mid-upper gunner P/O William Moss RCAF and rear gunner Sgt William Robertson.

His name can be found on IBCC panel 002.

Photographic sources: 550 Squadron Association/Aerosteles

