

LAC James Henry Attwood 566321 RAF

James was the son of Leonard Walter and Florence May Attwood, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

He was a member of the ground crew serving with 1428 (Hudson Conversion) Flight, based at RAF Oulton, Norfolk. The squadron formed in December 1941, operating until May 1942, with the sole purpose of training crews on the Hudson III, known as 'Old Boomerang', because it always came back.

On 6 April 1942 Lockheed Hudson III AE565 took off from Oulton airfield on a test flight. It is believed to have flown into a tree, 1 mile east of Saxthorpe, north Norfolk, killing five on board.



James is buried at Norwich Cemetery, Norfolk. Sec. 54. Grave 573. The epitaph reads "Dearly beloved son of Leonard Walter and the late Florence K. Attwood of Newcastle-on-Tyne". He was 25 years old.

A wooden case containing RAF Oulton Roll of Honour is sited in St. Andrew's Church, Blickling, Norfolk. A further memorial is sited at the junction of Aylsham Road and New Road, Oulton Street, Norfolk, in memory of the men and women of RAF and USAAF based there in 1940-1945.

The crew comprised:

LAC James Henry Attwood RAF, Groundcrew (killed)
P/O George Robert Heppell DFM RAFVR, Pilot (killed)
Sgt. Santos Herbert Kittson RAFVR, Pilot (killed)
LAC William McElhutton RAFVR, Groundcrew (killed)
Sgt. Leon John Wilson RAFVR, Pilot (killed)

He is commemorated on Panel 4

Photo courtesy of www.lockheedmartin.com