

Sgt. Stanley Ernest Baber 1338704 RAFVR

Stanley Baber was the air bomber of one of the last two Wellingtons lost by 166 Squadron before it converted to Lancasters in the early autumn of 1943. The squadron suffered the highest Wellington losses in Bomber Command in 1943.

He was part of the crew of Wellington X LN397 AS-P when it took off from Kirmington at 0042 hours on the morning of 31 August 1943 for a twin attack on the adjoining towns of Monchengladbach and Rheydt involving some 660 bombers.

What happened to LN397 is unclear. The Wellington failed to return and no trace was ever found of it, or its five-man crew. The presumption was it crashed in the North Sea.

Stanley was one of four 21-year-olds and a 20-year-old in the crew. He came from Hayes in Middlesex and was the son of Ernest and Edith Baber.

The other members of the crew were the pilot F/O Eric Cook, navigator P/O Albert Freeman, wireless operator/air gunner Sgt. Philip Davies and rear gunner Sgt. Ronald Blood.



His name can be found on panel 004.

Source: 166 Squadron Association.