

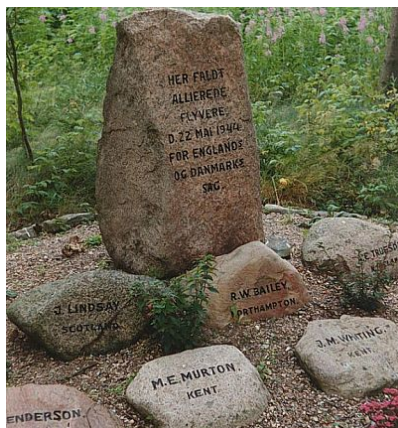
P/O Ronald Walter Bailey 170965 RAFVR

Ronald Bailey was an experienced Lancaster pilot who died along with his crew when their aircraft was shot down by a night-fighter in Denmark following a mining operation in Kiel Bay.

He was the pilot of Lancaster LL950 LE-Y, of No. 630 Squadron, one of 14 aircraft from the squadron sent to sow mines off the Danish east coast on the night of 21/22 May 1944.



LL950 had taken off from East Kirkby in Lincolnshire at 2218 hours and was homebound when the Lancaster was attacked over Denmark and crashed near the village of Vesterlund. There were no survivors. A stone memorial (*pictured*), marking the crash and remembering the crew, now stands at the site.



Ronald and his crew had been with the squadron since early March and the mining trip was their 16th operation together.

He came from Northampton where he lived with his wife, Esme, and was the 22-year-old son of Walter and Lillian Bailey. Ronald is buried with the rest of his crew in Fourfelt Cemetery in Esbjerg.

The others who died were the flight engineer P/O John Whiting, navigator Flt. Sgt. Charles Richardson, bomb-aimer Flt. Sgt. James Henderson, wireless operator F/O Albert Truesdale, mid-upper gunner Sgt. James Lindsay

and rear gunner Sgt. Martin Murton.

His name can be found on panel 004.

Sources: 630 Squadron Association.