

Pilot Officer Brian Derek Bowes-Cavanagh 89371 RAFVR

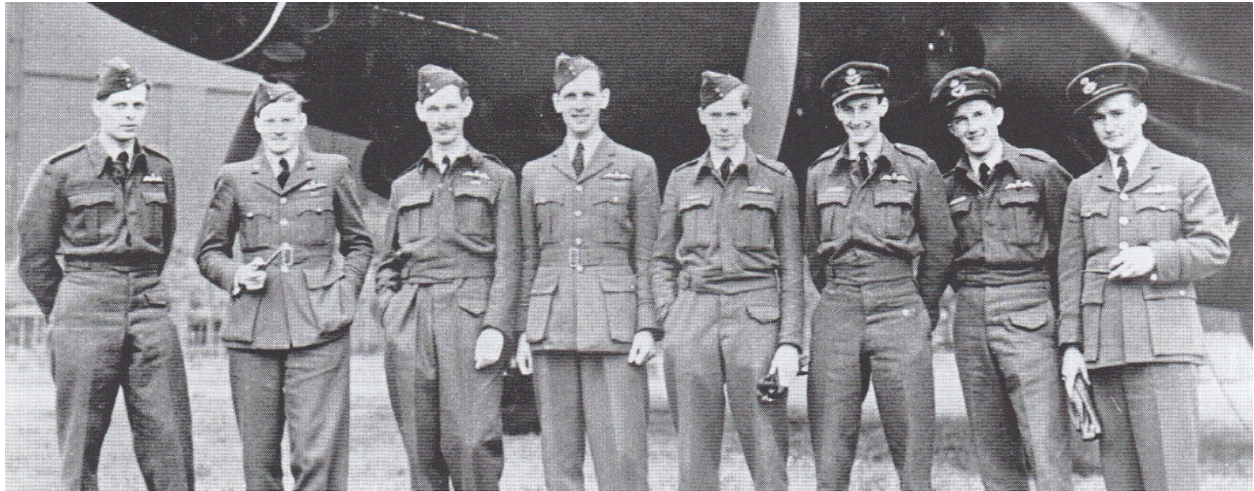


Photo: Pilots of No. 207 Squadron B Flight. P/O Bowes-Cavanagh is 2nd from the right.

Brian Bowes-Cavanagh was a pilot with 207 Squadron based at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire who was killed in October 1941 aged just 21.

On the night of 12 October 1941 Bomber Command attacked both Nuremburg and Bremen, but Brian's Avro Manchester Mk 1 L7312 was one of 90 aircraft dispatched to bomb the chemical factory at Huls. The target was completely cloud covered; the bombing was scattered and unsatisfactory.

At 0405 hours L7312 was intercepted and shot down by a night fighter. It was claimed by Oberfeldwebel Paul Gildner of the 4./NJG 1, who had taken off from Gilze-Rijen airfield in the Netherlands, in a Dornier 215. The bomber crashed at Horendonk (Antwerpen), killing six of the seven crew on board including Brian. The crew who died that night are buried in Essen Communal Cemetery.

Brian was the son of Gerald Richard and Cecilia Gwendoline Bowes-Cavanagh, of Hampton, Middlesex.

The rest of the crew of Manchester L7312 EM-L were:

Sgt. R S Stuart - KIA

Flt. Sgt. J A Cheesman - PoW

Sgt. A J Carter - KIA

Sgt. G P Spindler - KIA

Sgt. J W Leason - KIA

Sgt. I H D Passy - KIA

Brian's name can be found on IBCC panel 11.