

Sgt. Joseph Aloysius Callaway 1480159 RAFVR



The crew, none of whom are identified, of DV388.

Joseph Callaway was the flight engineer of the first Lancaster of the newly-formed 626 Squadron to be shot down on operations.

His Lancaster, DV388 UM-S2, was shot down by either flak or a night fighter shortly after completing its bomb run over Berlin on the night of 26/27 November 1943, less than three weeks after 626 was formed from C Flight of 12 Squadron at RAF Wickenby in Lincolnshire.

UM-S2, a brand-new aircraft which had only just been delivered to Wickenby, crashed at Finow, north-east of the German capital where the crew were initially buried. They were later reinterred in the Berlin War Cemetery in Charlottenburg. Two other Lancasters from 626 were lost on the raid, one crashing in Norfolk with the loss of the entire crew on its return and a second crashing close to the airfield as it attempted to land, the crew escaping injury. Joseph's aircraft had left Wickenby at 1723 hours as part of a force of 443 Lancasters. Twenty-six were lost with a further six crashing back in England.

He was part of a young mixed Canadian-British crew relatively new to operations. Joseph was the 21-year-old son of Clarence and Catherine Callaway.

The others who died were pilot WO2 Cecil Kindt RCAF, navigator WO2 James Small RCAF, bomb-aimer Flt. Sgt. Archibald MacDonald RCAF, wireless operator Sgt. Thomas Brady, mid-upper gunner Sgt. Cecil Johnson and rear gunner Sgt. Frank Matthews.

His name can be found on panel 016.

Sources: 626 Squadron Association/Aircrew Remembered.

