

Flt. Sgt. Dennis Cannon
1320615 RAFVR

Dennis Cannon was a Lancaster mid-upper gunner killed in the RAF's final large-scale raid on Berlin.

He was part of the crew of Sqdn. Ldr. Ken Bickers DFC, a flight commander with No. 103 squadron at RAF Elsham Wolds.

They were on board Lancaster I ME665 PM-C which left Elsham at 1839 hours on the evening of 24 March 1944, to join 810 other Bomber Command aircraft in what was the final attack of the Battle of Berlin, and the last major raid by the RAF on the city.



The attack force ran into very strong winds over Germany, resulting in the bomber stream become scattered which led in part to 72 aircraft being lost, including PM-C.

Exactly what happened to Dennis' Lancaster is unclear but it crashed at Luckenwalde, some 30 kilometres from Berlin after completing its bomb run. His was one of three bodies later recovered and he is buried in the Berlin War Cemetery (grave ref. 7. H. 25). The crew are also remembered on a memorial which has been erected at the crash site.

Dennis came from Enfield in Essex and was the son of William and Ellen Cannon.

Killed with him were the pilot, flight engineer Flt. Sgt. Joe Wadsworth, navigator F/O Cyril Plummer DFC, bomb-aimer F/O Peter Bell, wireless operator Flt. Sgt. Len Comer and rear gunner F/O Norman Tombs.

Dennis' name can be found on IBCC panel 017.

Photographic source: The Bickers family.