

**Sgt. Richard
Matthew Cartlidge
1478946 RAFVR**



Richard Cartlidge was a young 630 Squadron wireless operator who was killed along with the rest of his crew when their Lancaster was believed to have been shot down by a night-fighter into the North Sea off the Belgian port of Zeebrugge.

His was one of five Lancasters lost during a No. 5 Group attack on the German military camp of Bourg-Léopold, two of them from 630.

Richard was part of the crew of ND580 (LE-G), which had taken off from East Kirkby at 2220 hours on the night of 11 May 1944 to join a force of 190 Lancasters and 8 Mosquitoes from 5 Group heading for the target.

His home was in Liverpool and he was the 20-year-old son of Richard and Nellie Cartlidge. Richard and his crew were on their fifth operation with the squadron and are thought to have been shot down into the sea at 0104 hours on 12 May. No bodies were ever recovered and all seven men on board are now remembered on the Runnymede Memorial.

The others who died were the pilot P/O Bob Jackson, flight engineer Sgt. Harold Owen, navigator Flt. Sgt. Denis Muddiman, bomb-aimer F/O Joseph Feldman RCAF, mid-upper gunner Sgt. Arthur Seago and rear gunner Sgt. Ernest Louis.

Richard's name can be found on panel 018.

Sources: 630 Squadron Association.