

Flt. Sgt. Joseph Vincent Chicoine R/56204 RCAF

Joe Chicoine was the Canadian rear-gunner of one of two Wellingtons lost by 103 Squadron during an attack on Bremen on the night of 2/3 July 1942.

He was flying in Wellington IC DV611, which had left RAF Elsham Wolds at 2321 hours and was reported to be approximately 30 minutes from the target when the aircraft was apparently attacked by a night fighter.

The Wellington was critically damaged, went into a dive and exploded, blowing clear Joe's fellow-RCAF observer, P/O David Davidner, who parachuted to safety and spent the remainder of the war as a PoW. The other four occupants of DV611, including Joe, were killed.

Joe was 30 and the son of Robert and Maria Chicoine. He and his crew had flown 10 operations together.



Also killed were the pilot P/O Archie Little RAAF and wireless operator/air gunners Sgt. Thomas Elliott and Sgt. John Edwards. All four are buried in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery.

Joe's name can be found on IBCC panel 019.

Photographic source: David Fell and Elsham Wolds Association.

