

**P/O Douglas William  
Drummond Faint 89791  
RAFVR**



Former London estate agent Douglas Faint was a pilot whose damaged Wellington crashed close to the Dutch coast while attempting to return from a bombing raid on Cologne, killing him and three others of his crew.

He was the pilot of Wellington W5379 PH-O, of No. 12 Squadron (*this Wellington is pictured here before it was delivered to the squadron from the factory at Aldergrove in Northern Ireland*), which had taken off from RAF Binbrook at 0020 hours on 11 October 1941.

W5379 was part of a force of 69 aircraft taking part in the raid with five Wellingtons lost, including a second from 12 Squadron whose crew were killed when their bomber hit a mine while crash-landing on a beach in Norfolk.

Douglas' Wellington lost an engine during the bombing attack and had managed to limp back across from the Rhine before it finally crashed at Haamstede in Zeeland, very close to the Dutch coast. Four of the crew, including Douglas, died in the crash with two others becoming prisoners of war.

He came from North Finchley in London and was the 22-year-old son of William and Maude Faint, his father working as an electrical engineer. Douglas was educated at Latymer School, in Edmonton, and later became an articled pupil at a North London firm of estate agents before enlisting and training as a pilot.

The others who died with Douglas were the observer P/O Garth Frew and wireless operator/air gunners Sgt. Kenneth Price and Sgt. Alfred Childs RCAF. All are now buried in Bergen-op-Zoom War Cemetery in Holland. The survivors were the 2<sup>nd</sup> pilot P/O Wilfred Wise (who was later to receive an MBE for his part as the 'bellows-man' in the Great Escape) and rear gunner Sgt. William Morton.

Douglas' name can be found on panel 034.

Sources: Aviation Safety Network/The Fallen Latymerians/Bomber Command Losses 1941 by Bill Chorley.