

F/O Douglas Fuller J/23475 RCAF



A Lancaster prepares to take-off from RAF Elsham

Douglas Fuller was the Canadian navigator of a 576 Squadron Lancaster shot down by a night fighter over Holland during an attack on the synthetic oil plant at Sterkrade on the night of 16/17 June 1944.

It was to prove a costly night for Bomber Command with 31 of the 321 aircraft taking part failing to return, the majority of them Halifaxes.

Douglas's Lancaster, ME810 UL-K2, had left RAF Elsham Wolds shortly after 2300 hours and was reported to have crashed close to the Deelen night fighter airfield near Arnhem. There were no survivors.

He was one of three Canadians in the crew, all from Ontario. He was the 20-year-old son of Glen and Vera Fuller of Windsor, Ontario, and is buried with his Canadian colleagues in the Canadian War Cemetery at Groesbeek.

The others who died with him were the pilot Flt. Lt. George Stockdale RCAF, flight engineer Sgt. Douglas Fabb, bomb-aimer F/O David Stewart, wireless operator Sgt. Jim Gray, mid-upper gunner Flt. Sgt. Ross Jack RCAF and rear gunner Sgt. Edward Morgan.

Douglas' name can be found on IBCC panel 038.

Photographic source: Elsham Wolds Association