

PO William Goldman 400403 RAAF

William was born on 28 May 1912 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, the son of Harry Goldman and Amelia Goldman nee Halinbourg.

William was employed as a manager for a furniture and joinery company when, in April 1940 he volunteered for aircrew service in the RAAF.

Called up in August 1940, following basic training in Australia, in December 1940 William was sent to Canada to train under the Empire Air Training Scheme. William completed his aircrew training in Canada in May 1941 with the award of his Observer badge. The following month William was granted a commission and embarked for the UK.

Following advanced training at 11 OTU RAF Bassingbourn, Hertfordshire, where he converted to multi crew/multi engine ops on the Wellington, in September 1941 William was posted to 458 Sqn at RAF Holme-on-Spalding-Moor, Yorkshire.

On 15/16 November 1941 Bomber Command was tasked with an attack on Emden, Lower Saxony, Germany, a significant naval port and industrial hub. A combined force of 49 aircraft, including six 458 Sqn crews, were allocated to the op.

At 17:17 on 15 November William, operating as the Navigator, and the crew departed RAF Holme-on-Spalding Moor in Wellington IV R1775(FU-).

The last communication from William's aircraft was received at 20:35 whilst they were over the North Sea on the return from the op. Three QDMs (magnetic headings) were sent to the aircraft at the approximate time of ETA back at base, the last being strength 6. Nothing further was heard from the aircraft, and it was assumed that the crew had lost their lives at sea. A square search by six aircraft found no trace of the missing aircraft or crew.

Also Killed: PO Ronald John Furey RAAF (Pilot); FS Henry William Duffield (AG); Sgt Alexander Lewis Cox RAAF (Pilot); Sgt Douglas Bertram Pepper (AG); Sgt Eric Rowland (WOp/AG)

(L-R Goldman; Cox; Furey; Duffield; Rowland; Pepper)



William has no known grave and is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial, Surrey

William is commemorated on Wall Panel 40

Photo Source: IBCC