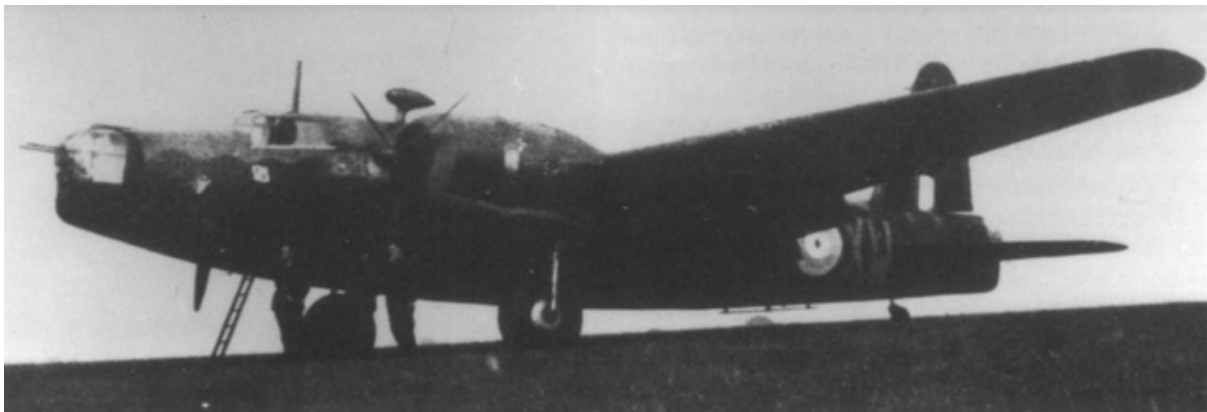


## **Sgt. Edward James Henry Heather 905779 RAFVR**

Edward was born on 15 December 1911, the son of Frank and Edith Helena Heather, of Caversham, Reading. He married Margaret Lena Lamb in October 1939 in Taunton, Somerset, and was a commercial traveller prior to enlistment.

He was a Pilot serving with 18 OTU at RAF Bitteswell, Leicestershire, having attained the Aviator Certificate on 22 August 1939, in a Gypsy Moth at Reading Aero Club.

Wellington IC R3216 WS-K took off from Bitteswell airfield on 29 September 1941, on an evening navigational exercise. At 2150 hours, on its return, the aircraft stalled and crashed as it approached Bitteswell, a satellite station often used by training units. Of the eight-man crew on board, only one survived. Sgt Zietkiewicz PAF was rescued by a motor transport driver, S W J Green, whose bravery was subsequently recognised through the award of the George Medal.



Edward is buried at Caversham Cemetery, Reading, Berkshire. Grave 431. He was 29 years old.

His fellow crew members were:

F/Sgt. Jack Stanley Fisher RAF (killed)  
Sgt. Stanislaw Cupryk PAF (killed)  
Sgt. Teofan Astramowicz PAF (killed)  
F/O Jan Jozepajt PAF (killed)  
Sgt. Jan Ksiezyc PAF (killed)  
F/O Zygfryd Stepień PAF (killed)  
Sgt. M Zietkiewicz (injured)

He is commemorated on IBCC Panel 47

Photo courtesy of [www.aircrewremembered.com](http://www.aircrewremembered.com)