

Flt. Sgt. Ross Alexander Jack R/169959 RCAF



Ross Jack (left) with his pilot FO George Stockdale

Ross Jack was the Canadian mid-upper gunner 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.

Ross' 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 of them from Ontario – who were later buried together in the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery. Ross was the 23 -year-old son of William and Janet Jack of Newton, Ontario.

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

Ross' name can be found on IBCC panel 053.

Photographic source: Canadian Virtual Memorial.