

## **FO David Richard Jones J/25750 RCAF**

David was born on 14 October 1921 in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, the only son of John Richard Jones and Annie Catherine Jones nee Main.

Educated at Cloverdale School, Mount View High, and Victoria College, Victoria, British Columbia, David was employed as a clerk by the British Columbia Education Department when, in January 1942, he applied for aircrew duties with the RCAF.

Called up in April 1942, David completed his training in Canada in April 1943 with the award of his Navigator badge. Granted a commission, in June 1943 David embarked for the UK.

Following advanced training at 30 OTU RAF Hixon, Staffordshire and conversion to the Lancaster at RAF Lindholme, Yorkshire, in May 1944 David was posted to 101 Sqn at RAF Ludford Magna, Lincolnshire.



On 25/26 August 1944 Bomber Command was tasked with three major raids to Russelsheim, Rhein-Main, Germany, Darmstadt, near Frankfurt, Germany and Brest, France. A combined total of 1311 sorties was achieved, a new record for Bomber Command. Ten 101 Sqn crews were allocated to the op, with two crews failing to return.

At 20:35 on 25 August David, operating as the Navigator, and the crew departed RAF Ludford Magna in Lancaster I ME857 (SR-C) tasked with ABC duties to Russelsheim.

David's aircraft was intercepted by Lt Josef Forster of 8./NJG 2 flying a JU88 from Volkel Airfield, Netherlands, and crashed in a marsh 1 mile from Boult, 20 miles NW of Verdun, killing 7 of the nine man crew. The Rear Gunner baled out and evaded, the Air Bomber baled out and was taken as POW.

Also killed: Flt Lt John Edward Porter RCAF (Pilot); FO Basil Laird Purkis (Pilot); PO Chester Owen Powell RCAF (AG); Sgt Rowland Theodore Hill (WOp/AG/SDO); Sgt John Spencer Kinsey (FE); Sgt William George Nisbett (WOp)

David is buried in Boult-Aux-Bois Communal Cemetery, Ardennes, France

David is commemorated on Wall Panel 56

Photo Source: [www.veterans.gc.ca](http://www.veterans.gc.ca)