

**Sgt. Alexander James
Mathieson 1566697 RAFVR**

Alex Mathieson was a young Scottish flight engineer killed on his 19th operation.

He was part of the crew of a No. 49 Squadron Lancaster lost during a raid on Berlin on the night of 22/23 November 1943. They were part of a force of over 760 heavy bombers attacking the German city in one of the opening exchanges of what became known as the Battle of Berlin.



Twenty Lancasters failed to return, including Alex's, when their aircraft, JB368 EA-G, failed to return. The bodies of the crew were never located after the war. They may have crashed into the sea, or on battlefields yet to be fought over, and all are now remembered on the Runnymede Memorial.

Alex came from Aberdeen and was the son of Alexander and Mary Mathieson. He was in a crew that included three Canadians and a young American second pilot serving in the RCAF.

The others who died were the pilot F/O Cyril Cottingham RCAF, second pilot Flt.Lt. George Bailey RCAF, navigator F/O Russell Richard RCAF, bomb-aimer F/O Maurice Wright, wireless operator Sgt. Geoffrey Tabenor, mid-upper gunner Sgt. George Falck and rear gunner Flt. Sgt. Colin Byers RCAF.

His name can be found on panel 069.

Sources: 49 Squadron Association.