

Sgt. Victor Nelson Trayler 634398 RAF

Victor Trayler was the Welsh mid-upper gunner of a young Lancaster crew killed early in their tour of operations in a raid on Berlin. A month later his wife, Olive, gave birth to their son.

He was part of the crew of Lancaster DV190 UM-B2, of 626 Squadron, which was shot down by flak in the early hours of 2 January 1944, crashing at Gardelegen, midway between Wolfsburg and Berlin. There was only one survivor, the flight engineer Sgt. J Edwards, who was badly injured in the process of escaping from the aircraft.

DV190, an ex-12 Squadron Lancaster, was one of 28 lost in the raid, which was part of Bomber Command's sustained assault on the German capital in the winter of 1943-44.

Victor, who was a regular member of the Royal Air Force, and Olive lived in Newport, Monmouthshire and he was the 22-year-old son of William and Gwendoline Traylor.

The others killed were the pilot Sgt. Ernest Berry, flight engineer Sgt. Eric Atkinson, bomb-aimer Sgt. Ronald Doull, wireless operator Sgt. Stanley Henderson and rear gunner Sgt. John Waters.

His name can be found on panel 108.

Sources: Tom Bint, 626 Squadron Association/Aircrew Remembered.

