

Sgt. John Waters 618134 RAF

John Waters was the rear gunner of a young Lancaster crew killed early in their tour of operations in a raid on Berlin.

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.

John was a regular member of the Royal Air Force and was the son of Matthew and Margaret Waters.

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 mid-upper gunner Sgt. Victor Trayner.

His name can be found on panel 112.

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

