

Sgt Peter Sigston White
RAFVR 988891

Peter White was a twenty-four-year-old mid-upper gunner from Leeds who was killed when his bomber was shot down by a night-fighter during a raid on Stuttgart.



He part of a well-experienced Lancaster crew from 630 Squadron whose aircraft had taken off from East Kirkby at 23:29 on the night of 1st March 1944 as part of a force of 557 bombers.

Thick cloud covered both the inbound and outbound route in addition to the target area, but the marking and bombing was very accurate, and only one Halifax and three Lancasters were lost. Among them was LD561 LE-R from 630 Squadron which was attacked by two night-fighters before crashing, killing all seven men on board on what was their tenth operation with the squadron, five of them to Berlin.

Peter was the son of Percy and Daisy White whose other son, Jack, had been killed flying as an air gunner in a 35 Squadron Halifax in Holland on 22 June 1943.

The others who died were the pilot PO Peter Piggin, flight engineer Flt Sgt Robert Pearson, navigator FO Rayner Jowett, bomb-aimer PO Percy Green, wireless operator FO William Bladen and rear gunner FO William Kirkpatrick. All are buried in Durnbach War Cemetery.

Peter's name can be found on panel 114.

Sources: 630 Squadron Association.