

PO Thomas Walker Caston R/15105 RCAF

Thomas was born on 27 February 1921 in Macklin, Saskatchewan, Canada the third son of John Everett Caston and Edna Ella Caston nee Walker.

Educated at Macklin Primary and High Schools, before enlisting in July 1940 he was employed as a printer for the Macklin Times.

Thomas completed his flying training in Canada and was awarded his wings in February 1941. In March 1941 Thomas arrived in England to complete his conversion training and was posted on to 110 Sqn in July 1941. He was commissioned in December 1941.

In February 1942, 110 Sqn commenced intensive training prior to their transfer to India, and Thomas and his crew were attached to the A&AEE (Aeroplane & Armament Experimental Establishment) at RAF Boscombe Down, Wiltshire for flight trials.

On 28 Feb 1942 Thomas and the crew departed RAF Boscombe Down in Albermarle I P1368. Whilst in flight, the starboard engine failed, leading to the feathering of the propeller on that side. By this time, the aircraft was on the brink of a stall. Thomas attempted a flat turn to the right but the starboard wing dropped and the aircraft spun-in from 500ft at Shalborne, near Hungerford, Wiltshire. All on board were killed - this was the day after Thomas's 21st birthday.

Also killed : PO John Cobean Fisher (Navigator); FS David Lewis Mullins (WOp)

Thomas is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey

Thomas is commemorated on Wall Panel 142

Photo Source : www.veterans.gc.ca

