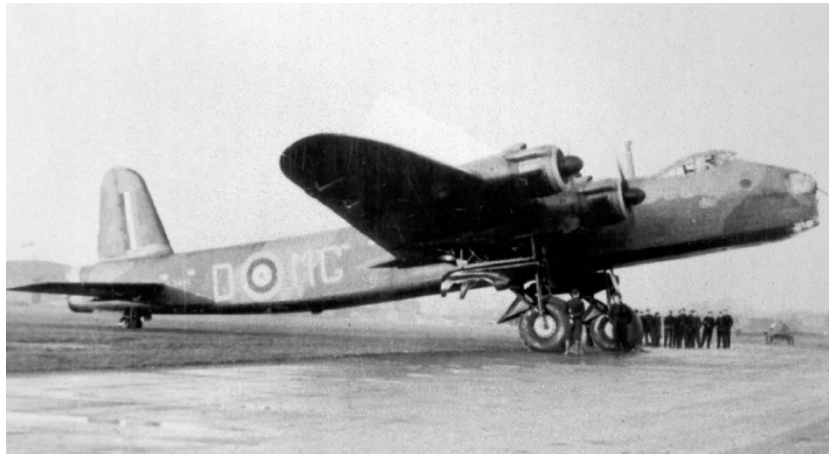


P/O John Ernest Chilvers 104444 RAFVR



7 Squadron

RAF Oakington

Stirling at

John was born on 29 August 1920, the son of Joseph Ernest and Amelia Chilvers (née Frank) of London. He was the brother of Betty.

Before enlisting, John was the Assistant Manager of the Gildredge Hotel in Eastbourne, Sussex. He was a pilot serving with No. 7 Squadron, based at RAF Oakington.

He and his crew took off from Oakington, in Short Stirling W7438 MG-A, at 0115 hours on 29 August 1941 on a night mission to attack Duisburg, Germany. Although they were last heard from at 0245 hours, the plane was reportedly coned by searchlights and hit by flak in the Ruhr area at around 0408 hours. It was witnessed burning in the air before exploding on impact as it crashed at Kaarst, WSW of Dusseldorf. All the crew were killed.

John is buried with the rest of his crew at Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany. Coll. Grave 6. C 1-7.

The others who died with John were:

2 nd Pilot	Sgt. John William Blakey
Flight Engineer	Sgt. Frank Cecil Child
Observer	P/O Charles Francis Hart RCAF
Wireless Operator/Air Gunner	Flt. Sgt. Alfred Penn
Wireless Operator/Air Gunner	Sgt. Gordon Jeoffre Truscott
Air Gunner	Sgt. Norman Richard Cowin

John is commemorated on Panel 144.

Picture courtesy of worldwarphotos.info