

## Flt. Sgt. Richard Roy Evans 1652888 RAFVR



Richard was the son of Richard and Catherine Evans, of Port Talbot, Glamorgan. He had two brothers and one sister.

He was a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society.

He had completed 15 missions with 622 Squadron before being posted as a navigator to 7 Squadron.

Lancaster PB667 MG-Q took off from RAF Oakington at 1031 hours 20 March 1945 to bomb railway tracks over Recklinghausen, Germany; their 22<sup>nd</sup> mission and just 49 days before the end of the war. On its return it was badly damaged and caught fire over Zuid Belevand in Holland. Watching the bomber from the ground was a group from 4<sup>th</sup> Commando Brigade. They saw the bomber on fire and losing altitude but F/O Bacon managed to control it long enough to avoid crashing into a town before the engine exploded and the Lancaster crashed into a field. The fire was immense and all perished. The seven bodies were later recovered by the commandos and buried next to the wreckage.

Richard was reburied at Bergen-Op-Zoom War Cemetery. Grave 13.A.7. His epitaph reads "They shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels". He was 27 years old.



One of the original propellers emerged from the soil in the summer of 2010 and forms the heart of a monument, unveiled in 2013, in Nieuwdrop honouring the sacrifice of the crew.

Flt. Sgt. Richard Roy Evans, Navigator (killed)  
F/O George Henry Huttleston, Air Bomber(killed)  
Sgt. Harry McClements, Flight Engineer (killed)  
F/O Lindsay Page Bacon RAAF, pilot (killed)  
Sgt. Jim Alex Cornwall, Air Gunner(killed)  
Sgt. Johnny Edward Taylor, Air Gunner (killed)  
WO Philip Athol Tennant RNZAF, Wireless Operator (killed)

Richard is commemorated on Panel 162

Photos taken from [tracesofwar.com](http://tracesofwar.com) & [databankzeelandwo2.nl](http://databankzeelandwo2.nl)