

Sgt Horace Llewellyn Grant 405254 RNZAF

Horace was born on 8 October 1914 in Christchurch, Canterbury, New Zealand, the son of Leonard Llewellyn Grant and Constance Grant nee Cowan.

Educated at Addington Technical College, Horace was employed as a baker in Christchurch, and was a member of the Canterbury Aero Club when, in January 1940, he applied for aircrew duties in the RNZAF.

Called up in December 1940, Horace commenced pilot training in New Zealand, but in April 1941 he was re-mustered as Observer when his flying training was suspended.

In June 1941 Horace was sent to Canada under the Empire Air Training Scheme where, in November 1941, he was awarded his Observer badge. Following further Navigator training, in January 1942 Horace was posted to the UK.

Horace completed his advanced training at 23 OTU at RAF Pershore, Worcestershire, and in August 1942 he was posted to 75(NZ) Sqn at RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk.



On 3/4 September 1942, a small force of eleven aircraft were tasked with an op against the German port of Emden. Six 75(NZ) crews, were allocated to the op. Two squadron aircraft failed to return.

At 23:28 on 3 September Horace, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk in Wellington III X3396 (AA-R).

Homeward bound, Horace's aircraft was intercepted by Oblt Paul Gildner of the 5./NJG 2, and at 02:20 finally brought down by flak crashing at Westermarsch I, Norden, Niedersachsen, killing all on board. This was Horace's 2nd op, the first on 75(NZ) Sqn.

Also Killed: Sgt James Law (Pilot); Sgt John Trevor Vivian Gill RNZAF (AG); Sgt Richard Alfred William Newman RNZAF (AB); Sgt Rupert Ernest Renton RNZAF (WOp/AG)

Originally buried in Heldenfriedhof Cemetery, Wittmund, Lower Saxony, Germany, in April 1947 Horace and the crew were moved to the Sage War Cemetery, Niedersachsen, Germany.

Horace is commemorated on Wall Panel 172

Photo Source: 75nzsquadron.wordpress.com