

FS George Alister Hutt 41914 RNZAF

George was born on 17 October 1916 in Palmerston North, North Island, New Zealand, the son of George Arthur Hutt and Elizabeth Jane Hutt nee Cairns.

Educated at Timaru Technical College, George qualified as an Associate of Accountants and was employed by Macfarlane & Co in Timaru and Greymouth. In May 1940, George applied for aircrew duties in the RNZAF.

Called up in February 1941, George completed his flying training in New Zealand with the award of his wings in July 1941.

Arriving in the UK in September 1941, George completed his training at 11 OTU RAF Basingbourn, Hertfordshire, and arrived on 75 (NZ) Sqn at RAF Feltwell, Norfolk on 7 July 1942.

On 28/29 July 1942 Bomber Command were tasked with an op against the industrial target of Hamburg. A combined force of 256 aircraft, including seventeen 75 (NZ) crews, were allocated to the op. This was planned to be a much larger raid but bad weather in the North of England prevented many squadrons from participating. The weather en-route was equally poor, and the 91 OTU aircraft were recalled. Losses were heavy, and six 75(NZ) Sqn crews were lost.

On the night of 28 July George and his crew departed RAF Feltwell, Norfolk in Wellington III BJ599 (AA-U). At 01:26 George's aircraft was coned by searchlights and shot down by heavy (schwere) flak, crashing near Steinbeck, Buckholz in der Nordheide, Niedersachsen, about 20 miles NW of the target. All on board were killed.

Also Killed: PO Murray Ellis Carncross RNZAF (Observer); Sgt James Gordon McMurchy RNZAF (WOp/AG); Sgt William Clerken O'Shea RNZAF (WOp/AG); Sgt John Henry Savage RNZAF (AG)

Originally buried in Stade Communal Cemetery, Lower Saxony, Germany, in September 1946 George and the crew were moved to Becklingen War Cemetery, Niedersachsen, Germany.

George is commemorated on Wall Panel 187

Photo Source: www.aucklandmuseum.com

