Flt Lt Brian Herbert Rutter Kerridge 39199 RAF

Brian was born on 28 December 1912 in Camberwell, London, the son of Victor Harry Kerridge and Emily Violet Kerridge nee Rutter.

Educated at Dulwich College, London, Brian joined the RAF and was awarded a Short Service Commission in October 1936. By August 1939, Brian was a pilot on the strength of 226 Sqn. Equipped with Fairey Battles, in September 1939 226 Sqn was deployed to France as part of the Advanced Air Striking Force and was based in Reims.

On 10 May 1940, 32 Battles from 13, 103, 105, 142, 150, 218 and 226 Squadrons were tasked with an attack against German troops advancing through Luxembourg. As it was impossible to provide a fighter escort, the bombers were briefed to make a very low approach to target and attack from as little as 250 feet using bombs with delayed fuses.

Brian and his crew departed Reims at 17:00 in Battle I L5247 (MQ-M). At 18:30, whilst engaged in a dive-bombing attack on enemy columns between Wallendorf and Diekirch, Brian's aircraft was shot down by ground fire and crashed just behind enemy lines in the northern suburbs of Faubourg de Luxembourg, Weimerskirch. All of the crew survived the crash and were taken prisoner, but Brian died of injuries sustained in the crash on 15 May 1940.

Brian is buried in Luxembourg (Hollerich) Communal Cemetery, Luxembourg

Brian is commemorated on Wall Panel 193