Sgt William Ernest Lindsell 1269884 RAFVR

William was born on 11 August 1920 in Hendon, Middlesex, the son of Henry Lindsell and Gertrude E Lindsell nee Wern.

Before joining the RAF and training as an Observer, William was employed as an Accounts Clerk.

In March 1942 William joined 18 Sqn at RAF Wattisham, Suffolk.

Following their detachment to Malta, 18 Sqn spent March and April 1942 training and preparing for operations, completing their first op on 26 April.

On 6 May 1942 twelve crews were placed on standby for night intruder duties against airfields in enemy occupied territory. Following a briefing at 21:30. William and the crew were allocated Eindhoven.

At 22:11 William, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed RAF Wattisham in Blenheim IV V6382 (WV).

At 01:13 on 7 May 1942, William's aircraft was intercepted by Oblt Heinrich Prinz zu Sayn-Wittgenstein of 9./NJG 2 flying a Ju88 from Gilze-Rijen Airfield. The aircraft crashed in the North Sea, 40km W of Walcheren, Zeeland, killing all on board. This was his first of 83 victories.

Also killed were : PO Henry Percival Palmer (Pilot); Sgt Ewart John Andrews (WOp/AG)

William has no known grave and is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial, Surrey

William is commemorated on Wall Panel 199