Flt Lt George Oldfield Lings DFC 33344 RAF



George was born in 1918 in Didsbury, Lancashire, the youngest son of Lt Col Harold Cronshaw Lings DSO and Helen Buchanan Lings nee Brown. In September 1940 he married Mary Pengelly in Brackley, Northamptonshire.

Educated at Felsted, Essex, George entered RAF Cranwell as a Flight Cadet in September 1936, graduating in July 1938 as a Pilot Officer and was posted on to 110 Sqn in August 1938.

In 1939, 110 Sqn was posted to RAF Wattisham where, on 4 September, George participated in the first RAF raid of the war against Wilhelmshaven.

In May 1940 George was awarded the DFC in a joint citation with 6 other aircrew for their large number of reconnaissance and bombing raids over enemy country, and over enemy air and naval bases. On 26 May 1940 he received his DFC from The King at RAF Feltwell.

On 26 April 1941, six 110 Sqn aircraft were ordered to standby to attack shipping in Beat 9. At 08:25 George and his crew departed RAF Watton in Blenheim IV V6063. No shipping was observed in the Beat area and, after jettisoning their bombs, began their return to base. At 10:45, George's aircraft was attacked by a Me109 flown by Oblt. Otto Vinzent from 3./JG54 and crashed into the sea, North of Texel, North Holland, killing all on board.

Also killed : FS Charles Ion Martin (Observer); Sgt Stephen George Peplar (WOp/AG)

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

George is commemorated on Wall Panel 199

Photo Source: Old Cranwellians