

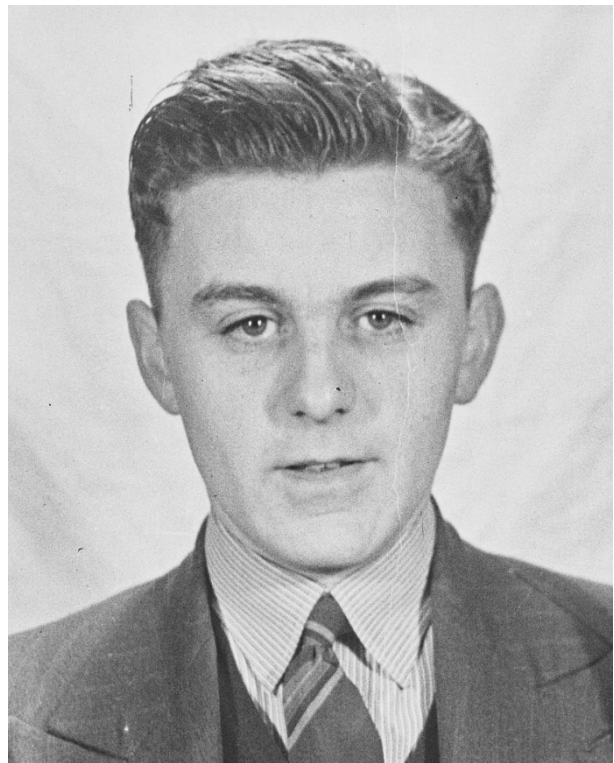
PO James Samuel Lupton 428331 RAAF

James was born on 20 July 1924 in Castlemaine, Victoria, Australia, the son of James Trehwella Lupton and Rose Pretoria Lupton nee Weymouth.

Employed as a clerk in Geelong, Victoria, in October 1942 James enlisted in the RAAF and, in July 1943, he completed his aircrew training in Australia with the award of his Air Gunner badge and embarked for the UK the following month.

Following advanced training at 1483 Bombing & Gunnery Flight, RAF Newmarket, Suffolk, 11 OTU RAF Westcott, Buckinghamshire, 1657 HCU RAF Stradishall, Suffolk and Lancaster conversion at 31 Base RAF Feltwell, Norfolk, in April 1944 James was posted to 514 Sqn at RAF Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire. In June 1944 James was granted a commission.

On 11/12 September 1944 Bomber Command was tasked with an op against Frankfurt, the final major raid of the war on this target.



A combined force of 387 aircraft, including fourteen 514 Sqn crews, was allocated to the task.

At 18:44 on 12 September James, operating as the Rear Gunner, and the crew departed RAF Mildenhall in Lancaster II LL731 (JI-U).

At 23:30 on 12 September, James's aircraft was intercepted by Lt Fred Hromadnik of the 9./NJG4. A second claim was made by Flak of 1.-3./schw. Flak Abt. 430 (Eisb.) The aircraft crashed at Kordel 5 miles NW of Trier, Rheinland-Palatinate, Germany, killing five of the seven-man crew. The Bomb Aimer and Flight Engineer survived and were taken as POW. This was James's 28th op.

Also Killed: FO William Douglas Brickwood (Pilot); PO Ronald Gordon Collender RNZAF (WOp/AG); FS Keith Varndell Stafford RNZAF (Nav); Sgt William Percy Blake (AG)

Originally buried in Kordel Cemetery, Rheinland-Palatinate, Germany, in May 1948 James was moved to the Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany.

James is commemorated on Wall Panel 201

Photo Source: recordsearch.naa.gov.au