

Sgt Daniel Joseph Mullen R/151170 RCAF

Daniel was born on 20 June 1918 in St Peter's Bay, Prince Edward Island, Canada, the son of Daniel James Mullen and Elizabeth Josephine Mullen nee Sharkey.

Educated at St Peter's South School and St Dunstan's College, Prince Edward Island, Daniel was employed as a clerk for a lumber company in Blind River Ontario when, in March 1942, he volunteered for service in the RCAF.

Called up in April 1942, Daniel completed his aircrew training in Canada in February 1943 with the award of his Observer badge, and he embarked for the UK the following month.



Following advanced training at 12 OCU RAF Chipping Warden, Northamptonshire and 1657 HCU RAF Stradishall, Suffolk, in July 1943 Daniel was posted to 218 Sqn at RAF Downham Market, Norfolk.

On 27/28 August 1943 Bomber Command was tasked with an op against Nuremberg, a major industrial and political centre. A combined force of 674 aircraft were allocated to the task, including eight 218 Sqn crews.

At 21:35 on the 27 August Daniel, operating as the Navigator, and the crew departed RAF Downham Market in Stirling III EF448 (HA-P).

On 28 August Daniel's aircraft was hit by flak, injuring the Mid Upper Gunner and putting his turret out of action. Shortly later the aircraft was intercepted by Oblt Werner Husemann flying a Bf110 of Stab /NJG1 flying from Deelen airfield, Netherlands. The attack put the intercom, signal lights and the rear turret out of action. The pilot pulled the aircraft out of a very steep dive, and a few minutes later they were attacked from above which put the port inner engine on fire. Daniel moved down the aircraft and signalled for the crew to bale out. The Rear Gunner and Wireless Operator, who had escaped through the astrodome, were the only crew members to escape, and both were taken as POW.

At 03:15 the aircraft crashed at Munstermaifeld, Mayen-Koblenz, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany, 13 miles SW of Koblenz, killing Daniel and the rest of the crew.

Also killed: FS Noel Michael Davis RAAF (Pilot); Sgt John Curson (AB); Sgt Douglas Alexander Ross RCAF (AG); Sgt George Louis Terry (FE)

Originally buried in Munstermaifeld Cemetery, in February 1948 Daniel was moved to the Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

Daniel is commemorated on Wall Panel 216

Photo Source: www.veterans.gc.ca