

PO Lloyd William Nelson J/95449 RCAF

Lloyd was born on 12 December 1921 in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, the son of Scott Nelson and Cassie Nelson nee Graham.

Educated at Ramsay Public School and Western Canada High, Alberta, Lloyd was employed as a clerk for General Motors when, in July 1942, he volunteered for aircrew duties in the RCAF.

Called up immediately, Lloyd completed his training in Canada with the award of his Navigator badge in August 1943, and embarked for the UK the following month.

After advanced training at 28 OTU, RAF Wymeswold, Leicestershire, in June 1944 Lloyd was posted to 138 Sqn at RAF Tempsford, Bedfordshire. Lloyd was granted a commission on 8 November 1944.

On 8/9 November 1944 twenty four Special Duties crews of 138 Sqn and 161 Sqn from RAF Tempsford were tasked with covert drops to Norway.

Just before midnight on 8 November, Lloyd and the crew departed RAF Stradishall in Stirling IV LK198 (NF-H) for an operation to Norway. Their task - "Op Puffin 2", was a supply drop of twelve containers and six packages to a drop zone 11 miles NE Hønefoss, 12.5 miles North of Oslo.

The weather forecast for the night was for a marked improvement en-route; however, the weather encountered by the crews was appalling - low cloud, heavy icing and thunderstorms. This marked deterioration in the weather disrupted the night's flying, and only one crew completed their op. Two 138 Squadron crews, including Lloyd's, failed to return and were believed to have gone down in the North Sea.

Also Killed: FO Sidney Harry Sharpe (AB); PO Louis Alexander Ouellette RCAF (Pilot); PO Peter Barnicke RCAF (AG); FS Robert Augusta Best RCAF (AG); FS Alexander Frederick Birdseye (WOp); Sgt Arthur John Jeffery (FE)

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

Lloyd is commemorated on Wall Panel 218

Photo Source: www.veterans.gc.ca

