

Flt. Sgt. Ralph Nixon 1571977 RAFVR

Ralph was born in Durham in 1923, the son of John and Mary Ellen Nixon. He had one brother, John and two sisters, Iris and Ethel.

He was an Air Gunner in 7 Squadron.

Lancaster ND590 MG-B took off from Oakington at 0002 hours 24 June 1944 on a mission to Coubronne. Nothing was heard from the aircraft after take-off and it did not return to base. "Post war enquiries by a Missing Research & Enquiry Unit established the aircraft crashed at approximately 0100 hours in a field near Warhem (Nord), and all the crew were killed. The village of Warhem (Nord) is 12km south east of Dunkirk".

It was part of 412 aircraft from No 3, 4, 6 and 8 Groups attacking 4 flying-bomb sites, which were all hit. 5 Lancaster's were lost.

Ralph is buried at Warhem Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. Row A. Coll. Grave 48.



Flt. Sgt. Ralph Nixon, Air Gunner (killed)
Flt. Sgt. John Thomas Ward, Air Gunner (killed)
P/O Charles Adrian McCarthy RAAF, Wireless Operator/Air Gunner (killed)
Flt. Lt. William Alexander Irwin DFC, Pilot RNZAF (killed)
Flt. Lt. Clifford Harris Drewer RAAF, Air Bomber (killed)
Flt. Sgt. Eric Cornish, Flight Engineer (killed)
Sq. Ldr. Reginald Wiseman Brown DFC, Navigator (killed)

Ralph is commemorated on Panel No 219
Picture taken from nzwargraves.org.nz