

Sgt Matthew Ogilvie 1595990 RAFVR

Matthew was born on 22 July 1922 in Hordon, Durham, the youngest son of Matthew Ogilvie and Norah Ogilvie nee Townsley.

Matthew was employed as a colliery electrician at Hatfield Colliery, Yorkshire and joined the RAF in August 1943.

In April 1944, Matthew was awarded his Air Gunner badge and, following advanced training at 20 OTU RAF Lossiemouth, Moray, Scotland, 1658 HCU RAF Riccall, Yorkshire, and 1663 HCU RAF Rufforth, Yorkshire, in November 1944 Matthew was posted to 462 (RAAF) Sqn at RAF Driffield, Yorkshire. The squadron moved to RAF Foulsham, Norfolk in December.



On 24/25 February 1945, Bomber Command was tasked with operating a diversionary sweep over Northern France to draw enemy fighters into the air.

A combined force of 74 training aircraft was allocated to the op, and 462 (RAAF) Sqn were detailed to carry out a "Spoofing" flight to Neuss, Rhein-Kreis Neuss district, North Rhine-Westphalia. Of the ten squadron aircraft allocated to the op, four failed to return.

At 17:05 on 24 February 1945 Matthew, operating as the Mid Upper Gunner, and the crew departed RAF Foulsham in Halifax III MZ461(Z5-G).

At 19:50 on 24 February Matthew's aircraft was intercepted by Ofw Walter Kreibaum flying a Bf109 of III./NJGII flying from Bonn-Hangelar Airfield, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany. At 20:12 the aircraft crashed at Anrath, near Krefeld, Nordrhein-Westfalen, killing all on board. Only five of the crew were recovered for burial.

Also Killed: FO John Hubert Hering RAAF (WOp/AG); FO Vivian Clive Ely RAAF (Pilot); FO Peter Millhouse (AB); FS Denis James Critchley (Nav); FS Geoffrey Robinson (AG); Sgt Rodney Hetherington (FE); Sgt George Arthur Edgar Sanday (SDO/FE)

Originally buried in Krefeld-Bochum New Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, in November 1946 Matthew was moved to Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany.

Matthew is commemorated on Wall Panel 220

Photo Source: findagrave