

PO Clifford Frederick Page 60780 RAFVR

Clifford was born on 20 February 1919 in Norwich, Norfolk, the son of Frederick James Page and Hilda F Page nee Green. In 1941 he married Muriel Alice Lacey in Yarmouth, Norfolk.

In December 1940, Clifford was awarded his Observer badge and granted his commission . Following advanced training, in March 1941 Clifford was posted to 75 (NZ) Sqn at RAF Feltwell, Norfolk.

On 6 May 1941 115 aircraft, including ten from 75(NZ) Sqn, were tasked with a night bombing op against the industrial port of Hamburg.

Shortly before midnight Clifford, operating as the Observer, and the crew departed RAF Feltwell, Norfolk, in Wellington IC R3169 (AA-O).

Poor visibility hindered the bombing force in locating the targets, and only 12 bombs hit the target area.

On return to base Clifford's aircraft was well north of the planned track, primarily as a result of a major variation in the forecast winds. After a change of course to the south, at 04:45 the aircraft collided with a barrage balloon and crashed into the River Humber near Trinity Sands, 6 miles ENE of Grimsby, Lincolnshire. Only the Rear Gunner from the crew of six survived. This was Clifford's 8th Op.

Also Killed: Sgt Alexander Coutts Mee RNZAF (Pilot); Sgt John Hall (WOp/AG); Sgt David Leo Nola RNZAF (Pilot); Sgt Walter Russell (WOp/AG)

Clifford is buried in Caistor Old Cemetery, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk

Clifford is commemorated on Wall Panel 222

Photo Source: 75nzsquadron.wordpress.com

