WO2 Neil Seymour Hunter Phillips RCAF R/79163

Neil was born on 18 September 1910 in Simla, India, the son of Hunter Innis Phillips and Elsie Phillips nee Milner.

Educated in India and Bedford Public School, Bedfordshire, he then travelled to Canada where he attended McGill University, Montreal to study agriculture. Following his degree course, Neil settled in Martintown, Ontario where he was employed as an apiarist

In February 1941, in Montreal, he enlisted in the RCAF and trained as a WOp/AG in Montreal and Fingal before arriving in England in December 1941. In April 1942 he arrived on 107 Sqn.

On 7 November 1942, 9 Bostons from 107 Sqn were tasked with a low level attack on the Coutrai Marshalling yards, Zeebrugge coke ovens and the power station at Zwevegem. Neil, the WOp/AG, and the crew departed RAF Great Massingham at 14:00 in Boston III Z2157 (OM) aiming for Coutrai. At 15:00, Neil's aircraft was seen with the port engine on fire and was believed to have collided with high-tension overhead electrical cables. The aircraft crashed into the ground at high speed on Lietard Farm 6km NE of Menin, Belgium.

Also killed : Sqn Ldr Philip Rex Barr DFC (Pilot); FO Walter Barfod (Navigator); PO Thomas Trotter (AG)

Neil is buried in Wevelgem Communal Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

Neil is commemorated on Wall Panel 226