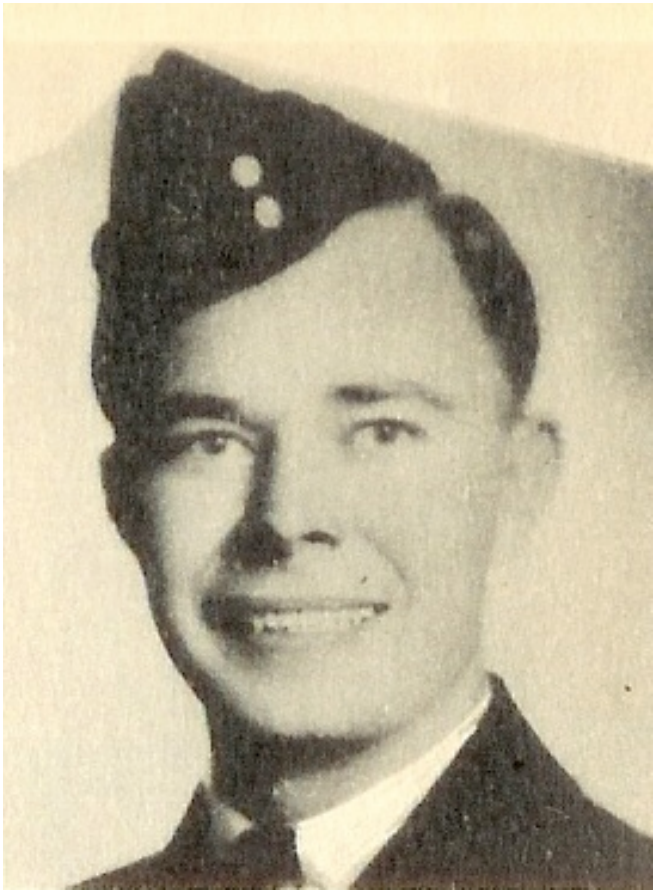
Sgt Barney Walker Shelnutt R/67559 RCAF



Barney was born on 7 February 1918 in Savannah, Georgia, USA, the son of Barney Walker Shelnutt and Idell Shelnutt nee Smith.

Educated at Statesboro High School and South Georgia Teachers' College, Barney was employed as a bookkeeper in Goulds, Florida, USA when, in June 1940, he applied for service with the RCAF.

Called up in July, Barney completed his training in Canada in February 1941 with the award of his WOp/AG badge, and in April 1941 he embarked for the UK.

Following advanced training at 23OTU RAF Pershore, Worcestershire, in September 1941 Barney was posted to 75(NZ) Sqn at RAF Feltwell, Norfolk.

On 26/27 October 1941 Bomber Command was tasked with an op against Hamburg, a major industrial centre and home to the Blohm and Voss shipyards. A combined force of 115 aircraft, including five 75(NZ) crews, were allocated to the op.

In the early evening of 26 October Barney, operating as the Wireless Operator, and the crew departed RAF Feltwell in Wellington Ic Z1168 (AA-H).

Barney's aircraft suffered catastrophic damage from heavy anti aircraft fire over Hamburg, and the order to bale out was given. Barney was the only crew member not to escape and went down with the aircraft. His body was never recovered.

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

Barney is commemorated on Wall Panel 240

Photo Source: www.veterans.gc.ca