

Flt. Sgt. John Thomas Ward 1001977 RAFVR

John was the son of Stead and Nora Ward, of Leeds, Yorkshire.

He was an Air Gunner on 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.

John is buried at Warhem Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. Row A. Coll. Grave 48. The inscription reads "Your life was short, your joys were few but sweet the memories we treasure of you". He was 24 years old.



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 RNZAF, Pilot (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)
Flt. Sgt. Ralph Nixon, Air Gunner (killed)

John is commemorated on Panel No 259
Picture taken from nzwargraves.org.nz