FO David Robert Lambie Wilson J/10797 RCAF



David was born on 13 September 1922 in Islington, Ontario, Canada, the eldest son of William Wilson and Elizabeth Wilson nee Watthews.

Educated at Kingsway West Public School and Burnaby South High, David was employed as a clerk by Woodward's Department Stores, Vancouver when, in June 1941, he volunteered for service with the RCAF.

Called up in July 1941, David completed his flying training in Canada in March 1942 with the award of his Wings, granted a commission and he embarked for the UK the following month.

Following advanced training at 42 OTU RAF Andover, Hampshire where he converted to multi crew ops on the Blenheim, in December 1942 David was posted to 18 Sqn at Canrobert Airfield, Algeria. The squadron operated on the Blenheim until the end of March 1943 when they commenced re-equipment with the Boston. Conversion complete, on 1 June 1943 the squadron re-located to Grombalia Airfield near Tunis.

On 6 June 1943, twelve 18 Sqn crews were tasked with an attack on two gun emplacements at Karuscia on the Island of Pantellaria, Sicily.

At 05:45 on 6 June 1943 David and his crew departed RAF Grombalia, Tunisia in Boston III AL492 (M).

Whilst in the target area, David's aircraft was attacked by Bf109s and was last seen 10 miles West of Pantellaria with the starboard engine on fire, but apparently under control. Nothing further was heard or seen of the aircraft and they were believed to have crashed or ditched in the sea.

Also Killed: FO Peter Opruk RCAF (Nav); FS Thomas Neil Bain RCAF (AG); Sgt William Royal Oak (WOp/AG)

David has no known grave and is commemorated on the Malta Memorial

David is commemorated on Wall Panel NYE

Photo Source: veterans.gc.ca