FS Charles Grant Davidson R/209219 RCAF



Charles was born on 30 March 1912 in Glencoe, Ontario, Canada, the son of Charles William Davidson and Beatrice Davidson nee Lumley. In May 1942 he married Eva Mary Mountford in Toronto.

Educated at Woodstock Public School and Humberside Collegiate Institute, Toronto, Charles was self employed as a book buyer when, in November 1942, he volunteered for aircrew duties in the RCAF.

Called up in March 1943, Charles commenced aircrew training in Canada and, in December 1943, he was awarded his Wireless Operator badge. Continuing to Navigator training, in June 1944, Charles was awarded his Navigator badge.

In November 1944 Charles completed Mosquito training at 7 OTU RCAF Debert Nova Scotia, and immediately embarked for the UK. Following additional training at 13 OTU RAF Bicester, Oxfordshire and reconnaissance training, on 1 March 1945 Charles was posted to 107 Sqn at Cambrai/Epinoy, Pas de Calais, France (Base 75).

On 5/6 March 1945 eight 107 Sqn crews were tasked with carrying out offensive patrols of railway infrastructure. The squadron was allocated four tasks, each consisting of two aircraft. Charles's area was Wetzlar-Siegen-Koln, Germany, specifically the marshalling yard at Haiger, Hesse, Germany.

At 23:17 on 5 March Charles and his pilot departed Base 75 in Mosquito VI RS533 (OM-P).

Recalled due to deteriorating weather, at 01:40 on 6 March whilst on the return leg, the aircraft was flown into the ground, in cloud, 0.5 miles south of Marquette, Nord, between Cambrai and Valenciennes, killing both on board. This was Charles's 3rd op.

Also killed: Flt Lt Vanegmond Robert Bell RCAF (Pilot)

Originally buried in Cambrai Cemetery, Nord, France in September 1945 Charles was moved to the Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, Oost-Vlaanderen, Belgium

Charles is commemorated on Wall Panel - Not Yet Erected

Photo Source: www.veterans.gc.ca