FO Roland Raymond Amey J/20654 RCAF



Roland, known as "Moss", was born on 6 July 1923 in North Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada, the son of William Amey and Amelia Jane Amey nee Billard.

Educated at North Sydney School, Roland was employed as a Bank Clerk in the North Sydney Branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia when, in October 1941, he enlisted in the RCAF.

Roland completed his flying training in Canada in November 1942 with the award of his Wings, was granted a commission, and embarked for the UK.

Following advanced training at 17(P) AFU RAF Watton, Norfolk and 55 OTU RAF Annan, Dumfrieshire, in July 1943 Roland was posted to 56 Sqn at RAF Manston, Kent. By October 1943, the squadron was operating from RAF Martlesham Heath, Suffolk.

On 20 November 1943, 56 Sqn was tasked with "Ramrod 323", an attack on Audinghen, Pas-de-Calais, France. The village was occupied by the German Army and the centre of "Organisation Todt". Todt was a civil and military engineering organisation responsible for a huge range of engineering projects in Germany, France and the Soviet Union.

At 15:35, ten 56 Sqn pilots departed RAF Martlesham Heath in two boxes of four, with two aircraft tasked with giving the formations top cover. Roland was flying as "Blue 4" in Typhoon Ib EK209 (DP-P).

Despite considerable flak over the target area, at 16:00 the operation was successfully completed and the formation commenced the return to base. At 16:35 when the formation was over Ipswich, Suffolk, Ronald's aircraft was seen to emit a cloud of white smoke, and then disappeared from the view of his formation. Roland crashed at Striblings Farm, Witnesham, 4 miles NE of Ipswich.

Seriously injured, Roland was taken to the East Suffolk Hospital, Ipswich where, at 22:00 the same day he died from multiple head injuries. It was concluded that the primary cause of the accident was delayed damage sustained from enemy flak which resulted in engine failure.

Roland is buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery Surrey

Roland is commemorated on Wall Panel - Not Yet Erected

Photo Source: www.veterans.gc.ca