

Harry Adams



Frederick Thomas Henry Adams

Sergeant, Flight Engineer, 463 (RAAF) Sqdn Royal Air Force

Service number 629232

Died 30 January 1944 Age 23

Memorial Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery

Inscription 'God giveth and God taketh away'

<https://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2078513/adams,-frederick-thomas-henry/>

Son of Frederick Charles and Deborah (nee Jackson) Adams of Gedling whose marriage was registered in Nottingham during the June quarter of 1915

Harry's birth was registered in Basford reg district during the Dec quarter of 1921.

He attended Chandos Street Boys School and joined the RAF for ground staff duties in 1938 aged 17 (Nottm Journal 11 Nov 1944).

On the 1939 register his parents were living at number 13 Lily Avenue in Netherfield his father, Frederick Charles' occupation is a painter.

Also listed are Mabel R Adams born 26th. February 1919 and Richard Adams born 20th. December 1928

At some point after September 1939 the family moved from Netherfield to 'Pembroke House' at the junction of Westdale Lane and Main Road Gedling.



Ordnance Survey map 1952



Pembroke House.

Harry re-mustered as a flight engineer, being assigned to the Royal Australian Airforce 463 Squadron. This was a heavy bomber squadron, operating as part of RAF Bomber Command, based at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire and equipped with Avro Lancaster Bombers. Throughout 1944, 463 squadron conducted raids against cities, industrial facilities and military targets in France and Norway and Germany over towns such as Brunswick, Hanover, Essen, Cologne and Berlin.

On 30th January 1944 ED949 took off from RAF Waddington at 17.17 hours It was part of 534 aircraft taking part in a raid on the German Capitol. The bomber stream were not intercepted until they were well into the run to the target when they faced fierce opposition from night fighters. Many were shot down over the target but the attacks continued after leaving the target area. On leaving their base the rear gunner had reported that his turret was out of action, but the crew decided to continue the operation. They were attacked by a night fighter and their defence was limited to the mid upper guns, a fire broke out in the bomb bay and the pilot gave the order to bale out. The aircraft, burning fiercely, crashed on the Neuruppin airfield, exploding on impact. Air Bomber Flgt Sgt Marshall Y Smith was the only survivor, he spent the remainder of the war in Stalag Luft Heydekrug.

(<http://aircrewremembered.com/dunn-douglas.html>)

Harry was reported missing 31 Jan 1944

He was first buried in Neuruppin Cemetery in the Brandenburg District of North West Germany

Following the war ending his remains were exhumed and reburied in the new Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery.

Also exhumed from Neuruppin Cemetery were the rest of the aircrew

Deakin, H Sgt RAF – 1590148

Dunn, D. C. Flying Officer RAAF Aust - 416418

Fidier, F. G. Flying Officer RAF -135040

Mc Connell, A. C. Sgt. RAF -1137800

Gloster, E. F. G. Flight Sgt RAF Aust. 425641

Date of death for all was 31st January 1944, they were buried side by side in grave numbers 22 to 27

Photographs of these cemeteries and of the Headstone for Frederick Thomas Henry Adams in the Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery can be found on the website

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18402389/frederick-thomas_henry-adams