

## Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor  
Foundation



### Personal info

Full name

**KUSTRA, Michael**

Date of birth

**21 May 1921**

Age

**23**

Place of birth

**Mahanoy City, Schuylkill County,  
Pennsylvania**

Hometown

**Mahanoy City, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania**

### Military service

Service number

**13177385**

Rank

**Sergeant**

Unit

**544th Bombardment Squadron,  
384th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,  
Air Medal**

### Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**6 April 1945**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
B	32	8

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Michael Kustra (father)**

**Mary (Kozemko) Kustra (mother)**

**Helen Kustra (sister)**

**Joseph Kustra (brother)**

**Peter Kustra (brother)**

**Mildred Kustra (sister)**

**Nancy Kustra (sister)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**43-39164**

### Data

**Type: B-17G**

**Destination: Leipzig, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of the rail traffic center**

**MACR: 13850**

## More information

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Michael Kustra worked in a machine shop before he volunteered for the Army of the United States in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on 11 December 1942.

The airplane collided with B-17 #43-38801 just after they left the target area.

It peeled off to the right, the #3 engine fell out, and #4 was on fire. It went into a spin and fell apart.

Three crew members were taken prisoner, and five men were killed.

## Photos

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Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Headstone and Interment Record / 1940 Census / Family Tree, [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com), [www.384thbombgroup.com](http://www.384thbombgroup.com)

Photo source: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)