

Personal info

Full name

CRAWFORD, Charles Earl

Date of birth

18 November 1919

Age

23

Place of birth

Baileyton, Cullman County, Alabama

Hometown

Baileyton, Cullman County, Alabama

Military service

Service number

34163642

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Missing in Action

Date of death

25 June 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

William T. Crawford (father)
Mary A. Crawford (mother)
Grace L. Crawford (sister)
James M. Crawford (brother)
Elsie E. Crawford (sister)
William A. Crawford (brother)
Louis C. Crawford (brother)
Mildred M. Crawford (sister)
Minnie E. Crawford (sister)
Margaret C. Crawford (sister)
Mary G. Crawford (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-30049

Data

Type: B-17
Nickname: Miss Deal
Destination: Hamburg, Germany
Mission: Bombing of the industrial area and submarine pens
MACR: 16349

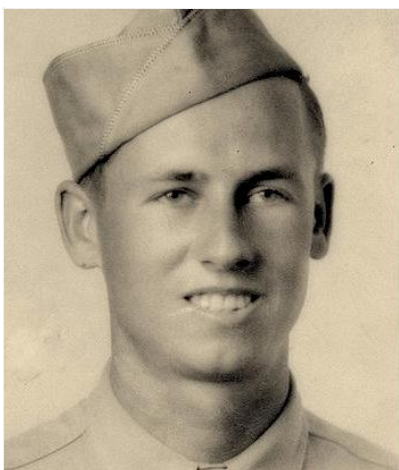
More information

Sgt Charles E. Crawford was a lineman before he joined the Air Corps of the Regular Army at Fort McPherson, Georgia, on 21 November 1941.

After making two unsuccessful runs on the primary target, the crew headed for Emden as a likely target for their bomb load. The flak guns found them, inflicting serious damage and injuries, and then they ran into fighters. A furious running battle ensued, with some crew members bailing out, and finally the aircraft exploded. The main part of the wreckage came down in the Dollard (Dutch: Dollart), an embayment of the Ems River on the border between Germany and the Netherlands.

Eight crew members were taken prisoner, and two men were killed.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, www.384thbombgroup.com, www.ancestry.com - Ferguson-Crawford Family Tree, www.fold3.com

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Arie-Jan van Hees