



## Personal info

Full name

**EFIRD, Lonnie Marshall**

Date of birth

**16 October 1920**

Age

**23**

Place of birth

**Salisbury, Rowan County, North  
Carolina**

Hometown

**Kannapolis, Rowan County, North Carolina**

## Military service

Service number

**34312175**

Rank

**Staff Sergeant**

Unit

**407th Bombardment Squadron,  
92nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**30 January 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
B	36	7

## Immediate family

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### Members

**David L. Efird (father)**

**Alma G. Efird (mother)**

**David L. Efird (brother)**

**Harold A. Efird (brother)**

**Sadie Bell (Johnson) Efird (wife)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**42-97441**

### Data

**Type: B-17G**

**Nickname: -**

**Destination: Braunschweig, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing**

**MACR: 2254**

## More information

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S/Sgt Lonnie M. Efird attended Landis High School.

He enlisted on 22 July 1942 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

His plane was involved with another B-17G in a mid-air collision.

Statement from S/Sgt Alexander Philips 42-31494:

I was Tail Gunner on B-17G 42-31494 and we were flying Lead Ship, Second Element, Low Squadron, Lead Group. I first noticed the ships when a big burst of flame caught my eye. I saw the two ships, one on top of the other. The bottom ship was in flames. Suddenly the bottom ship exploded. The explosion of the lower ship tore the left wing of the upper ship and as it started to go down, it exploded too. The lower ball turret fell out from the lower ship. No parachutes were seen.

The picture was taken in high school in 1937.

## Photos

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Source of information: André Koch, Terry Hirsch, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) - WWII Enlistment Record, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - 1920 Census, North Carolina Birth index, [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) - MACR, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: Jac Engels, Landis High School 1937