



Personal info

Full name

GATTO, Stephen Lawrence

Date of birth

23 May 1920

Age

24

Place of birth

Ontario, Wayne County, New York

Hometown

Rochester, Monroe County, New York

Military service

Service number

12024483

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

6 April 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
C	4	40

Immediate family

Members

Joseph Gatto (father)

Theresa Gatto (mother)

Rose Gatto (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

43-38801

Data

Type: B-17G

Nickname: Ruth

Destination: Leipzig, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the rail traffic center

MACR: 13851

More information

Sgt Stephen L. Gatto attended Benjamin Franklin High School and was employed by the Rochester Stationery Company.

He joined the Air Corps of the Regular Army in Binghamton, New York on 23 May 1941.

The airplane collided with B-17 #43-39164 just after they left the target area.

The tail was destroyed, and it had a hole in the right trailing edge of the wing. The pilot held control for a minute and then went into a steep dive.

Seven crew members were killed, and one was taken prisoner.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, <http://384thbomgroup.com>, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.newspapers.com - Democrat and Chronicle, www.ancestry.com - 1930 Census, New York Birth Index

Photo source: Jac Engels, www.newspapers.com - Democrat and Chronicle