

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

HEIST, Walter H

Date of birth

6 April 1921

Age

23

Place of birth

Jefferson County, Kentucky

Hometown

Alden, Erie County, New York

Military service

Service number

32380856

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

**496th Bombardment Squadron,
344th Bombardment Group, Medium**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Finding of Death

Date of death

27 April 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
C	14	25

Immediate family

Members

Wesley G. Heist (father)

Alice G. (McAvoy) Heist (mother)

Jean A. Heist (sister)

Frank T. Heist (brother)

John D. Heist (brother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-95893

Data

Type: B-26B

Nickname: -

Destination: Fort Mardych, France

Mission: Bombing of coastal artillery batteries

MACR: 4145

More information

Sgt Walter H. Heist was a machine operator before enlisted on 21 July 1942 in Buffalo, New York.

The airplane was hit directly over the target immediately after dropping bombs. The released bombs had not as yet hit the target when flak hit the plane. The left engine was seen to burst into flames, the plane then went into a dive, burst completely into flames and crashed approximately one hundred and fifty yards from the target. One crew member survived and was taken prisoner, five men were killed.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov - WWII Enlistment record, www.ancestry.com - 1930 census, Various Family trees, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.8thafhs.com/db/index.php

Photo source: Peter Schouteten