

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

SWARTZENDRUBER, Carroll Duane

Date of birth

25 June 1924

Age

19

Place of birth

Greene, Iowa County, Iowa

Hometown

Wellman, Washington County, Iowa

Military service

Service number

37663908

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

13 May 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
A	29	3

Immediate family

Members

Erlis J. Swartzendruber (father)

Nettie (Bender) Swartzendruber (mother)

Loren Swartzendruber (brother)

Eleanor Swartzendruber (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-102548

Data

Type: B-17G

Destination: Poznan, Poland

Mission: Bombing of the aircraft assembly components factory

MACR: 4814

More information

Carroll D. Swartzendruber was a driver before he enlisted at Camp Dodge, Iowa on 4 March 1943.

The airplane was attacked by enemy fighters. The instrument panel on the co-pilot's side and windows on that side were blown out. The co-pilot was hit in the right leg and the oxygen and hydraulic system and radio were knocked out. The pilot immediately lowered the altitude because of loss of oxygen and hoped to escape the attacks that way. Almost immediately however the cockpit compartment burst into flames. Because the intercom didn't work anymore, he immediately rang the emergency bell. At that time the fire was so intense they had to leave the compartment.

Seven crew members were taken prisoner, three men were killed.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, [384thbombgroup. www.ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) - Family Trees /
Headstone and Interment Record / Iowa, Births and Christenings Index / WWII Bonus Case File

Photo source: Mireille Goedhart, www.findagrave.com