

Fields of Honor Memorial

Exported from the Fields of Honor Foundation Memorial on 14-02-2026 at 04:53

[View this record at fieldsofhonor.com](https://fieldsofhonor.com)



Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

MEANS, Robert Eugene

Date of birth

December 1922

Age

21

Place of birth

Iowa

Hometown

Manilla, Crawford County, Iowa

Military service

Service number

37656190

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**337th Bombardment Squadron,
96th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

21 February 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
B	40	21

Immediate family

Members

Frank B. Means (father)

Hannah Means (mother)

Margaret Means (sister)

Grace Means (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-39814

Data

Type: B-17G

Nickname: Big Time Operator

Destination: Brunswick, Germany

Mission: Operational

MACR: 2425

More information

Eyewitness statement from a crewmember:

"After 'bail out', 'bail out' came over the interphone, S/Sgt William O. Ford and myself put S/Sgt Frank V. Morale harness his chute on. We had just snapped his chute on when the ship turned over and went into a dive. I started crawling up, towards the waist door with Morales behind me. It was approximately four feet from the door when I turned around and looked at Morales. He tried to yell something but I could not hear him. As I turned my head back towards the door, I saw Means, lying face down. It must have been then that the explosion took place, as I came to, approximately 8,000 feet and seen three chutes under my own. Pieces of the ship were coming down around me afire and the chute had a rip or was severed by cannon fragments."

Photos



Source of information: FOHF, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.ancestry.com - Council Bluffs Nonpareil 10 March 1944

Photo source: Jac Engels, www.findagrave.com