

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

ROSS, Robert Fred

Date of birth

8 June 1921

Age

22

Place of birth

Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Hometown

Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Military service

Service number

15103232

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**569th Bombardment Squadron,
390th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

8 October 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	5	33

Immediate family

Members

Fred W. Ross (father)

Nettie Ross (mother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-30292

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Pulsatin' Polly

Destination: Bremen, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the U-boat yards

MACR: 783

More information

S/Sgt Robert F. Ross graduated from West Technical High School and was employed at Cleveland Twist Drill Company.

He volunteered for the Army of the United States at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, on 17 June 1942.

According to the right waist gunner, S/Sgt Harold T. Lambert, the airplane was hit by anti-aircraft fire about the time they reached the Initial Point. Two engines were afire and there was also fire in the accessory compartment and part of the oxygen system was disabled. Also, the radio room and the cockpit were hit, injuring both pilots. They were forced to leave the formation and were attacked by enemy fighters, causing further damage. The pilot, Lt Marshall Shepherd, gave the order to bail out, but he was never able to leave his seat himself. While the crew members were trying to leave the airplane, it blew up.

Four men survived and were taken prisoner, and six men were killed.

It was the 13th mission of this crew.

Photos



