



## Personal info

Full name

**HOUSER, Donald Roy**

Date of birth

**1 February 1926**

Age

**18**

Place of birth

**Frackville, Schuylkill County,  
Pennsylvania**

Hometown

**Box Elder County, Utah**

## Military service

Service number

**39280902**

Rank

**Sergeant**

Unit

**360th Bombardment Squadron,  
303rd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,  
Air Medal**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**22 February 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Henri-Chapelle**

**Tablets of the Missing**

## Immediate family

Members

**Roy C. Houser (father)**

**Rose M. Houser (mother)**

## Plane data

Serial number

**42-5788**

Data

**Type: B-17F**

**Nickname: Pluto's Avenger**

**Destination: Aschersleben, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of Junkers Flugzeugwerke - aviation industry**

**MACR: 2647**

## More information

Donald Houser worked in a chemical plant.

He enlisted in Los Angeles, California on 2 February 1943.

On the return from a mission to Aschersleben, the aircraft was attacked by five German fighters who aimed for the nose and the tail. It had peeled off under control in a shallow dive. The #4 engine was smoking. It crashed in Duffel 15 km southeast of Antwerp, Belgium.

Sgt Houser came out of his burning turret, badly wounded and died of blood loss. He was first buried on the grounds of the fortress of Borsbeek, together with the other crew members who didn't survive the crash. After the war their bodies were moved, but Sgt Houser was never found.

A monument was erected on the corner of the Rechtstraat and the Veleplas, Duffel, Belgium.

## Photos



HORRIGAN RICHARD W  
22 FTR SQ 36 FTR GP  
• HOUSER DONALD R  
360 BOMB SQ 303 BOMB GP (H)  
• HUMBLE HOWARD E  
275 INF 70 DIV  
HUNTER VICTOR I



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, [303rdBomberGroup.com](http://303rdBomberGroup.com), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Veteran Compensation Application File / 1930 Census

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Gerda en Ronny, <http://www.303rdbg.com/360morrin-plutosavenger.jpg>