

Fields of Honor Memorial

Exported from the Fields of Honor Foundation Memorial on 14-02-2026 at 05:37

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



Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

TRILLING, Frank Henry

Date of birth

4 September 1917

Age

26

Place of birth

**Waupun, Winnebago County,
Wisconsin**

Hometown

Waupun, Dodge County, Wisconsin

Military service

Service number

16116627

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**331st Bombardment Squadron,
94th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters**

Death & Grave

Status

Missing in Action

Date of death

6 August 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

Frank A. Trilling (father)

Florence A. Trilling (mother)

Marjorie F. (Hoard) Trilling (wife)

Margaret T. Trilling (daughter)

Plane data

Serial number

42-107185

Data

Type: B-17G

Destination: Berlin, Germany

MACR: 8075

More information

S/Sgt Frank H. Trilling enlisted in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on 15 September 1942.

Aircraft #42-107185 was hit by flak in the target area (Berlin). Left formation in vicinity of target and continued to follow formation until about 31 miles on course after departing the enemy coast. At approximately 54°14'N - 07°25'E at 1352 hours the aircraft was seen to ditch. Observations just prior to ditching indicated that three (3) engines were out. As this aircraft had lagged behind the formation from the target area out, it was too far behind to accurately observe whether ditching was carried out safely.

Eventually all of the crewmembers beside Staff Sergeant Frank H. Trilling survived the ditch in the North Sea just North of the Island of Norderney and were captured by German Sea Patrol.

S/Sgt Frank Henry Trilling had his parachute on, against strict ditching regulations, and most likely this has been the cause of him drowning, while the others could not reach him because the aircraft that was broken in half blocked the way between Staff Sergeant Trilling and the other crewmembers.

Along side his parents, he is remembered at Oak Hill Cemetery in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Photos



Source of information: Mary Thelen Plat, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov - WWII Enlistment Record, www.ancestry.com - Family Trees, www.fold3.com - MACR, 1st Lt Claud L. Thomas Jr., Individual Casualty Questionnaires, <http://www.8thafhs.com>

Photo source: www.findagrave.com - Fred Munchhof, www.ancestry.com - University of Wisconsin Yearbook 1939