



### Personal info

Full name

**VANCE, Harold Claude "Dei"**

Date of birth

**1 September 1920**

Age

**24**

Place of birth

**Indiana**

Hometown

**Seymour, Jackson County, Indiana**

### Military service

Service number

**35707170**

Rank

**Staff Sergeant**

Unit

**332nd 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

**4 November 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Margraten**

**Walls of the Missing**

## Immediate family

### Members

**John C. Vance (father)**  
**Maude A. (Fields) Vance (mother)**  
**Roy Vance (brother)**  
**Carl W. Vance (brother)**  
**Peggy (Barness) Vance (sister)**  
**Jean (Kelly) Vance (sister)**  
**Bettie M. (Carlein) Vance (sister)**  
**Mary E. Vance (wife)**  
**Johnny Vance (son)**  
**Judy Vance (daughter)**

## Plane data

### Serial number

**43-38165**

### Data

**Type: B-17G**  
**Nickname: St. Christopher Kids**  
**Destination: Hamburg, Germany**  
**Mission: Bombing of the Rheunania Ossag oil refinery**  
**MACR: 10305**

## More information

S/Sgt Harold C. Vance graduated from Shields High School and was the employed by Burnside-Box Construction Company.

He enlisted in Liousville, Kentucky on 4 August 1943.

Two engines were hit and damaged by flak. According to the last word received from the crew, they were heading towards Holland and had decided to abandon the plane in the North Sea and await an Air Rescue. No further communication was received.

The entire crew of nine men was killed.

Official Statement of Thomas C.S. Houser, 2nd Lt, Air Corps:

"This aircraft was last seen with two engines out on 4 November 1944 at 53°52'N - 07°00'E at 1322 hours. At 1342 hours it was reported that he was calling for Air Sea Resque at 53°48'N - 05°40'E. Reports over VHF stated that he would try to make Holland but then decided to ditch. No further confirmed reports were received from this aircraft and therefore it is not known whether it ditched or made a landing safely."

## Photos



VAN METER, MALCOLM  
2 LT 62 FTR SQ 56 FTR GP  
VAN MUNSTER, RICHARD  
2 LT 787 BOMB SQ 466 BOMB GP H  
VAN RAVENSTEIN, EDWARD  
S SGT 359 BOMB SQ 303 BOMB GP  
VANCE, HAROLD C  
S SGT 332 BOMB SQ 94 BOMB GP  
VASO, GEORGE E  
PFC 16 INF 1 DIV  
VERMIE, LAYTON P  
2 LT 570 BOMB SQ 300 BOMB GP

Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) - WWII Enlistment Record, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Vance Family Tree / Underwood Family tree / 1930 Census, [www.usaafdata.com](http://www.usaafdata.com), [www.Fold3.com](http://www.Fold3.com) - MACR, Statement, [www.8thafs.com](http://www.8thafs.com), [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com) - The Tribune

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com) - The Tribune