



Personal info

Full name

WYATT, Jesse Lavern

Date of birth

13 August 1923

Age

20

Place of birth

Alabama

Hometown

Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama

Military service

Service number

O-673663

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

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

Awards

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

Death & Grave

Status

Finding of Death

Date of death

8 October 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

William P. Wyatt (father)

Christine (Adams) Wyatt (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

Jesse L. Wyatt attended Ensley High School.

He volunteered for the Air Corps of the Army of the United States at Gunter Field, Alabama on 28 February 1942 and received his wings in Hondo, Texas in February 1943.

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



Photo source: Peter Schouteten, 390 BG Memorial Foundation via Arie-Jan van Hees, The Birmingham News - 18 July 1943, The Birmingham News - 7 March 1943