



Personal info

Full name

BRANN, Fred

Date of birth

2 December 1907

Age

36

Place of birth

Dunkirk, Chautauque County, New York

Hometown

Erie County, New York

Military service

Service number

32284335

Rank

Technical Sergeant

Unit

**335th Bombardment Squadron,
95th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Missing in Action

Date of death

20 December 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

Theodore Brann (father)

Julia (Baron) Brann (mother)

William Brann (brother)

Elmor Brann (brother)

Theodore A. Brann (brother)

Madelin Brann (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-31305

Data

Type: B-17G

Destination: Bremen, Germany

Mission: Bombing

MACR: 1557

More information

T/Sgt Fred Brann enlisted in Buffalo, New York on 27 May 1942.

Gunner-engineer on a Flying Fortress, Tech Sgt. Fred Brann, widely known sports writer and former publicity director of the Buffalo Baseball Club, failed to return from a raid on Germany December 20th, 1943. He went overseas with his air crew at the end of 1943 and had completed two bombing missions. On both these missions his Fort was hit by flak but he and his crew mates escaped injury. The plane was on its third bombing run when it failed to return. In the service nearly two years, Sgt. Brann completed air crew training in April 1943, qualifying as flight engineer and top turret gunner. He went overseas as a staff sergeant and was promoted to technical sergeant after getting into action.

B-17G 42-31305 piloted by 2nd Lt, William P. Kelley Jr., was last seen near target with two engines a fire when it went down. Two chutes were seen to leave the ship.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Annemijn Vierdag, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com, www.ancestry.com, www.archives.gov, Buffalo newspaper - 2 January 1944

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Annemijn Vierdag