

## Personal info

Full name

**SMITH, Brian Temple**

Date of birth

**21 November 1920**

Age

**22**

Place of birth

**Santa Clara, Santa Clara County,  
California**

Hometown

**Santa Clara, Santa Clara County, California**

## Military service

Service number

**O-672467**

Rank

**First Lieutenant**

Unit

**579th Bombardment Squadron,  
392nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,  
Air Medal**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Finding of Death**

Date of death

**4 October 1943**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Margraten**

**Walls of the Missing**

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Earle T. Smith (father)**

**Grace (Stevens) Smith (mother)**

**Victor P. Smith (brother)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**42-7474**

### Data

**Type: B-24H**

**Nickname: Satan's Flame**

**Destination: North Sea**

**Mission: Diversion**

**MACR: 891**

## More information

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1st Lt Brian T. Smith graduated from Los Gatos High School in 1936 and attended the University of California at Berkeley.

At UCB, he completed the aviation course given by the Civil Aeronautics Authority. He was selected for advanced training to include ground and flight training by Oakland Flying School and Moreau Flying Service. He worked as a park ranger for the US Department of the Interior at Kings Canyon National Park.

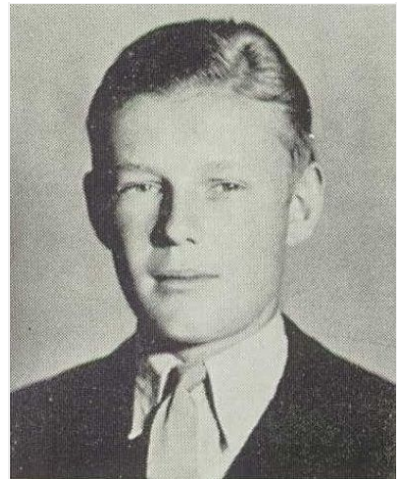
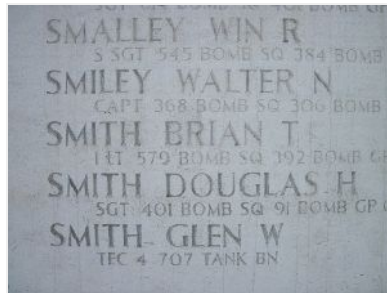
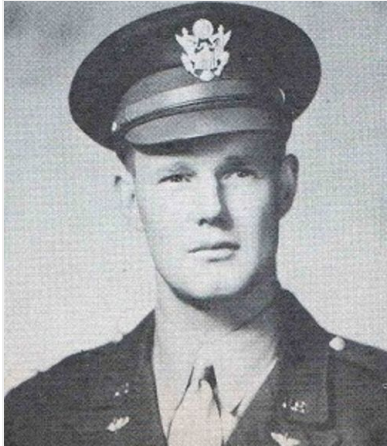
He enlisted on 10 December 1941 at the Presidio of Monterey, California and was sent overseas in August 1943.

The mission's objective was to deconcentrate German defenses, primarily fighter units, and draw them away from the main bomber routes across the continent.

This aircraft was last seen when it lost altitude with one or more engines on fire as a result of fighter attacks. Three or four parachutes were noted at that time.

The entire crew of ten men was killed.

## Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, [www.B24.NET](http://www.B24.NET), [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Hatton Family Tree, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Chris van der Linden, Arie-Jan van Hees, Pilot Class Book 43 B/D, Jones Field, Bonham, Texas, Los Gatos High School 1936