

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

FORD, Ray Denver

Date of birth

2 March 1919

Age

24

Place of birth

Hopewell, Virginia

Hometown

Richmond, Virginia

Military service

Service number

6888102

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**360th Bombardment Squadron,
303rd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Distinguished Flying Cross,
Purple Heart,
Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

29 November 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

| Plot | Row | Grave |
|------|-----|-------|
| C | 1 | 42 |

Immediate family

Members

Frank C. Ford (father)

Robert N. Poindexter (stepfather)

Lillian (Gardener) Ford (mother)

Roy C. Ford (brother)

Robert Ford (brother)

Marshall Poindexter (halfbrother)

Joan J. Ford (wife)

Plane data

Serial number

42-29498

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Mumsie aka Dark Horse

Destination: Bremen, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the port

MACR: 1657

More information

S/Sgt Ray D. Ford flew 25 credited combat missions.

The aircraft was hit by flak just after bombs away with the bomb bay doors still open. The right horizontal stabilizer, part of the right wing and two engines were lost. A third engine caught fire.

The B-17 was also under attack by FW-190 German Fighters.

Seven crew members were killed, four men survived. The crew exceptionally consisted of eleven men because there was a photographer on board.

According to surviving crew members, S/Sgt Ford was killed in his turret.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.303rdbg.com, WWII Memorial, [Footnote](#), WWII Draft Card, 1930 US Census

Photo source: www.findagrave.com, www.303rdbg.com, The Richmond News Leader - 19 January 1944