



Personal info

Full name

WASHBURN, Robert Hugh Clarkson

Date of birth

15 October 1923

Age

20

Place of birth

New Brunswick, Canada

Hometown

Bridgeport, Fairfield County, Connecticut

Military service

Service number

11103114

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

1 December 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
B	26	9

Immediate family

Members

Robert Washburn (father)
Doris Washburn (mother)
Helen Washburn (sister)
Ruby Washburn (sister)
Donald Washburn (brother)
Dorothy Washburn (sister)
Lois Washburn (sister)
Joan Washburn (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-39781

Data

Type: B-17G
Nickname: Career Girl
Destination: Solingen, Germany
Mission: Bombing of the industrial area
MACR: 1325

More information

Robert Washburn volunteered for the Air Corps of the Army of the United States in Hartford, Connecticut on 1 December 1942.

The airplane was hit by flak, knocking out #1, #3 and #4 engines. It was last seen by other crews in the vicinity of Aachen, Germany when it dropped out of formation in a gradual turn to the right.

Sgt Robert Washburn landed with his parachute in an open area near Carvin. He noticed a crowd of French civilians running towards him. He ran the other way towards a German search party and then turned towards the French. The German soldiers shouted for him to surrender, but he kept running and the Germans shot him.

He was the only casualty. Seven other crew members were taken prisoner, two men evaded capture.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, 303rdBomberGroup.com

Photo source: Michel Beckers