Fields of Honor Memorial
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Fields of Honor
Foundation

Personal info

Full name
PAYTON, Howard Sephus

Date of birth
4 January 1921

Age
23

Place of birth
Dubois, Dubois County, Indiana

Hometown
West Baden Springs, Orange County, Indiana

Military service

Service number
35493395

Rank
Sergeant

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

Awards
Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status
Died of Wounds

Date of death
20 December 1944

Cemetery
American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	11	19

Immediate family

Members
William H. Payton (father)
Mary Payton (mother)
Claude Payton (brother)
Ralph Payton (brother)
Arnold Payton (brother)

Plane data

Serial number
42-5483

Data
Type: B-17G
Nickname: Red Ass
Destination: Bremen, Germany
Mission: Bombing of the port
MACR: 1656

More information

Sgt Howard S. Payton enlisted in the US Army at Louisville, Kentucky on 14 September 1942.

The mission took place on 29 November 1943.

The aircraft had engine and supercharger problems over the target. A ME-210 fighter fired 20 mm shells into the cockpit and nose area, wounding the navigator and killing the bombardier.

Seven crew members bailed out and were taken prisoner. Three men were killed.

Sgt Payton was wounded when he bailed out. He was taken prisoner and died on 20 December 1944 of illness. The exact cause and location are not known.

Photos