



Personal info

Full name

HESS, Robert William

Date of birth

12 September 1920

Age

23

Place of birth

Ellisburg, Jefferson County, New York

Hometown

Tully, Onondaga County, New York

Military service

Service number

12099180

Rank

Sergeant

Unit

**853rd Bombardment Squadron,
491st Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Missing in Action

Date of death

5 June 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

Bailey O. Hess (father)

Jennie I. (Baker) Hess (mother)

Marjorie Hess (sister)

Margaret M. (Batt) Hess (wife)

Maureen Hess (daughter)

Plane data

Serial number

44-40243

Data

Type: B-24 J

Macr: 5633

Mission: Operational

More information

Sgt Robert W. Hess graduated from Tully Central High School in 1938.

On aircraft M 44-40243 5 June 1944

I was flying with Lt Sharp on Aircraft F 44-40226 as left waist gunner. M 44-40243 was hit by flak just after we had passed the target. The plane appeared to blow up just before it hit land or water. I was at the left waist window and the plane was practically at a right angle when it exploded. The number 1 engine was feathered and gas was streaming out between number 1 and number 2 engines.

Two men seemed to have come out of the plane, but I saw one chute open.

- Warren H Rudolph

According to a newspaper article in the Watertown Daily Times of 2 April 1946, he was initially buried at the Temporary American Military Cemetery of St. André, France. We have no confirmation this information is correct.

Photos



Source of information:: Terry Hirsch, www.wwiimemorial.com, NARA, Missing Aircrew Report 5633, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: www.findagrave.com, Watertown Daily Times - 2 April 1946