



Personal info

Full name

BONNAR, Robert Wheadon

Date of birth

18 April 1923

Age

21

Place of birth

Schenectady County, New York

Hometown

Altadena, Los Angeles County, California

Military service

Service number

O-711119

Rank

First Lieutenant

Unit

**566th Bombardment Squadron,
389th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

3 February 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	24	19

Immediate family

Members

Benjamin Bonnar (father)
Alys E (Wheadon) Bonnar (mother)
Roberta Bonnar (sister)
Jeanne Bonnar (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-50551

Data

Type: B-24J
Nickname: Delectable Doris
Destination: Magdeburg, Germany
Mission: Bombing of the marshalling yard
MACR: 12370

More information

1st Lt Robert W. Bonnar was employed at the Douglas Aircraft Co.

He joined the Air Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve at Buckley Field, Colorado on 18 February 1943.

The airplane was hit by flak in the pilots compartment and nose. It was observed to go into a dive, but was pulled out of it. Then it went into a slow roll from which it was pulled out again and then started weaving. Crew members of other bombers in the formation saw nine parachutes leaving the plane before the bombs burst and the ship blew up. Parts of the airplane were cratered in an area of 5000 meters by 500 meters.

Lt. Bonnar was initially buried at the cemetery of Salzgitter on 4 February 1945.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.389thbg.net, www.wwiiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: www.findagrave.com, Arie-Jan van Hees, Pilot Class Book 44-B, Lubbock, Texas