



Personal info

Full name

WEST, William Durham Jr

Date of birth

17 January 1925

Age

20

Place of birth

Louisiana

Hometown

DeRidder, Beauregard Parish, Louisiana

Military service

Service number

18171808

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**701st Bombardment Squadron,
445th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

20 March 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

William D. West (father)

Maude West (mother)

Glen L. West (brother)

June West (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

44-48851

Data

Type: B-24-JSH

Destination: Hemmingstadt, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the Heide oil refinery

MACR: 13563

More information

S/Sgt William D. West Jr. attended high school for 3 years before he joined the US Army Reserve in Lafayette, Louisiana on 1 February 1943.

The aircraft received a direct hit by flak while on his bomb run. The right wing came off and a large hole was observed in the left wing. The ship then blew up as it crashed into the water.

The entire crew is listed on the Walls of the Missing at Margraten.

He is remembered at the Beauregard Cemetery in DeRidder, Beauregard Parish, Louisiana.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Arie-Jan van Hees, www.abmc.gov, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.ancestry.com - 1940 Census / Louisiana Find a Grave Index, 1700-2012, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.8thafhs.org

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, www.findagrave.com - Anonymous, Tony Destro