



Personal info

Full name

EAST, Roy Weldon

Date of birth

3 November 1921

Age

22

Place of birth

Caldwell County, Kentucky

Hometown

Donaldson, Caldwell County, Kentucky

Military service

Service number

35486698

Rank

Technical Sergeant

Unit

**535th Bombardment Squadron,
381st Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Missing in Action

Date of death

5 November 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Walls of the Missing

Immediate family

Members

Henry E. East (father)

Susie M. (Waide) East (mother)

R. C. East (brother)

Robert F. East (brother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-30852

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Hot Toddy aka Blowin' Bessie

Destination: Gelsenkirchen, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the synthetic oil refinery

MACR: 1399

More information

Roy East attended high school for four years. He enlisted in Evansville, Indiana on 29 July 1942.

The airplane was hit by flak over the target, knocking out #2 engine. Oil vapor came out the #2 nacelle and the propeller was windmilling. also #1 engine was hit and was feathered. It kept up with the formation for about ten minutes and then dropped out and was observed to be losing altitude. Later the plane was attacked by German fighters, hitting it near the cockpit.

Some of the crew members jumped out before the plane hit the water of the Hollandsch Diep near the village named Klundert.

In total seven crew members were killed from which six were never recovered. Three crew members survived and were taken prisoner.

The wreck of the plane was recovered in October 1969.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.ancestry.com - Family Tree

Photo source: Peter Schouteten