

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

DODGE, Sherman Metcalf

Date of birth

17 August 1918

Age

25

Place of birth

**Malden, Middlesex County,
Massachusetts**

Hometown

Winchester, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

Military service

Service number

O-797491

Rank

First Lieutenant

Unit

**331st Bombardment Squadron,
94th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Silver Star,
Purple Heart**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

14 October 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Lorraine

Plot	Row	Grave
C	13	41

Immediate family

Members

Frederick A. Dodge (father)

Mildred H. (Sherman) Dodge (mother)

Jeanette (Buehler) Dodge (wife)

Plane data

Serial number

42-3338

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Sleepy Time Gal

Destination: Schweinfurt, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the ball bearing plants

MACR: 791

More information

1st Lt Sherman M. Dodge enlisted in Boston, Massachusetts on 17 March 1942.

Six months after arriving in England, Lt Dodge and his crew climbed into their plane, around 10:00 a.m., unaware their target would be the deadliest the 8th Air Force would face: Schweinfurt, Germany.

Lt Dodge and four of his crew members were killed when their B-17 was hit by anti-aircraft fire and enemy fighters. The co-pilot, 2nd Lt. John T. Chandler, survived and evaded capture with the help of the French Resistance.

Knowing his plane was fatally hit, Lt Dodge steered a course to France to afford his crew a chance to escape. Because of his actions, 4 of his 5 surviving crew were able to evade and return to England.

During his debriefing after returning to England, Lt Chandler described what happened that day:

"Hit by flak over Schweinfurt on Oct 14, 1943. We lost the formation and headed for France. At 18,000 feet we caught fire, fighters came in to finish us off. We began bailing out ... My chute opened just before I hit the ground. Lt. Dodge's chute did not open..."

Lt Dodge was first buried in Toul, France, near where the wreckage of his plane landed. His remains were later moved to the Lorraine American Cemetery at St. Avold, France.

Photos



Source of information: André Koch, www.abmc.gov, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov - WWII Enlistment Record, www.ancestry.com - Headstone and Interment Record / 1930/1940 Census / The Dodge Family, www.fold3.com - MACR, www.findagrave.com - Barbara Haines, <http://www.8thafhs.com>
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