

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

NOBLE, William Paul Jr

Date of birth

8 June 1922

Age

22

Place of birth

Norfolk, Virginia

Hometown

Norfolk, Virginia

Military service

Service number

O-817729

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

**700th Bombardment Squadron,
445th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

21 June 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
B	39	53

Immediate family

Members

William P. Noble (father)

Bertie L. (Cofer) Noble (mother)

Early V. Noble (brother)

Audrey L. Noble (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-50329

Data

Type: B-24H

Destination: Berlin, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the city

MACR: 6166

More information

2nd Lt William P. Noble Jr. attended high school for 4 years and was a plumber apprentice. He joined the Air Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve in Richmond, Virginia on 11 September 1942.

The airplane was hit by flak over the target and attacked by a ME 410 and shot down by 20 mm canon fire. Eight crew members were killed, two were taken prisoner.

It is believed that the fighter belonged to Luftbeobachtungsstaffel 1 and was piloted by Leutnant Woeske who claimed a B 24 at 12:42 hours.

On 8 November 1945 at 12:30 his body, along with a small parachute, was found floating in the sea near the island of Barsø by a local fisherman. The body was brought ashore and taken to the hospital in Aabenraa by ambulance. After formal identification it was handed over to the British troops in Denmark who took it to Schleswig in Germany just south of the border. Noble was laid to rest in the British Military Cemetery in Schleswig. He is believed to have been transferred to Ardennes Cemetery in 1948.

The remains of two crew members, Henry J. Gordon and James O. Snyder, were never recovered. Their names are remembered on Tablets of the Missing at Cambridge American Cemetery.

The killed crew members are remembered with a memorial in Årø, Denmark.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Peter Schouteten, Terry Hirsch, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov, www.ancestry.com, www.fold3.com - www.8thafhs.com

Photo source: Peter Schouteten