



## Personal info

Full name

**PETERSON, Darling Leroy**

Date of birth

**5 March 1924**

Age

**21**

Place of birth

**Minneapolis, Hennepin County,  
Minnesota**

Hometown

**Hennepin County, Minnesota**

## Military service

Service number

**O-2064310**

Rank

**First Lieutenant**

Unit

**702nd Bombardment Squadron,  
445th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

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

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**7 April 1945**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
C	7	19

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Anton Peterson (father)**

**Bertha J. (Johnson) Peterson (mother)**

**Helen (Plochock) Peterson (wife)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**42-94870**

### Data

**Type: B-24H**

**Nickname: Axis Ex-Lax**

**Destination: Duneberg, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing**

**MACR: 13894**

## More information

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Ship 870 was attacked by an ME-262 and a fire started in the bomb bay. The ship started to go down and all crew members put on their parachutes. The ship exploded and six men were blown clear of the plane. Darling L. Peterson was dead on reaching the ground.

1st Lt Darling L. Peterson first buried at Temporary American Military Cemetery Ardennes, Belgium Block J, Row 2, Grave 30.

## Photos

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**Source of information:** Peter Schouteten, Terry Hirsch, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Paulson Family Tree / U.S., Headstone and Interment Records for U.S. Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil, <http://www.americanairmuseum.com/aircraft/9885>

**Photo source:** Peter Schouteten, [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) - Helen (Darling Leroy) Plochocki, Peterson, Candyli