Fields of Honor Memorial

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Personal info

Full name

GILLETTE, Henry Aaron

Date of birth

10 July 1918

Age
Place of birth

Massachusetts

Hometown

Jamaica Plain, Suffolk County, Massachusetts

Military service

Service number

O-829458

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

701st Bombardment Squadron, 445th Bombardment Group, Heavy

Awards

Air Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

24 March 1945

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
D	12	20

Immediate family

Members

Isidore Gillette (father)

Bessie Gillette (mother)

Melvin Gillette (brother)

Edith G. Gillette (wife)

Ellen Gillette (daughter)

Elizabeth Gillette (daughter)

Plane data

Serial number

42-51245

Data

Type: B-24J

Destination: Wesel, Germany

Mission: Supply drop MACR: 13516

More information

Lt. Henry A. Gillette graduated from Boston Latin High School in 1936. He was on the track team, the Debate team and was a cheer leader.

He joined the Air Corps of the Army of the United States in Boston, Massachusetts on 5 November 1942. The mission of the day was dropping supplies for the ground troops, participating in Operation Varsity.

The airplane was hit by small arms fire when it was flying at 300 ft and caught fire. It crashed in flames and exploded. All ten crew members were killed.

According to the above mentioned book, Lt Strickland's brother Harold, an infantryman, witnessed the crash but did not know his brother was on board.

Photos







Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.archives.gov, Ellen Gillette Swatek

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Ellen Gillette Swatek, Boston Latin High School yearbook, 1936