

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

SMALL, Asha Parker

Date of birth

14 November 1910

Age

33

Place of birth

**Reistertown, Baltimore County,
Maryland**

Hometown

Baltimore County, Maryland

Military service

Service number

33382794

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

22 December 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
O	14	2

Immediate family

Members

Thomas B. Small (father)

Asenath E. (Parker) Small (mother)

Elizabeth Small (sister)

Merab Small (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-64438

Data

Type: B-24H

Nick name: Snow Goose

Destination: Osnabrück, Germany

Mission: Bombing

MACR: 16098

More information

S/Sgt Asha P. Small enlisted in Baltimore, Maryland on 7 November 1942.

Ship 438 was attacked by fighters at time of bombs away. It was last seen going down out of control and no chutes were observed. The airplane crashed around 2:30 PM, 1 km Southwest of Bolsward in a cow pasture. Their Liberator was the victim of a direct hit and set afire, they still had their bomb load and rather than drop them on civilianians they chose to crash with their bombs. Before they finally crashed they shot the German plane down, the pilot parachuting out and taken prisoner. The plane was burning so no one was allowed near. It burned till 7 o'clock that evening, when the bombs went off which blew everything in all directions.

Five bodies were found and four of them recognized. The other members of the crew were destroyed in the explosion of the bombs. The major of Bolsward got the bodies from the Germans, and immediately the town donated the money to buy the plot and pay the funeral expenses and care for the grave.

On Saturday December 24, 1943 at 3 o'clock P.M. the soldiers were buried with graveside services by 2 Catholic Priest. The funeral was attended by the whole town, the graves were completely covered with many flowers. They were buried in the Protestant section of the cemetery at the decision of the Major as they didn't know the religion of each soldier is on his identification tag.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Astrid van Erp, www.ancestry.com - Headstone and Interment Records / 1930 Census, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov - WWII Enlistment Record, www.fold3.com - MACR, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: Anthony L. Destro II, www.findagrave.com - TxOma