



Personal info

Full name

HELPES, Robert R

Date of birth

24 October 1922

Age

21

Place of birth

**Los Angeles, Los Angeles County,
California**

Hometown

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California

Military service

Service number

39567121

Rank

Staff Sergeant

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	12

Immediate family

Members

Almer J. Helpes (father)

Mary E. Helpes (mother)

Orville J. Helpes (brother)

William H. Helpes (brother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-50329

Data

Type: B-24H

Destination: Berlin, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the city

MACR: 6166

More information

S/Sgt Robert R. Helpes attended college for 1 year and was a typist. He enlisted in Los Angeles, California on 23 March 1943.

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.

S/Sgt Robert R. Helpes was found washed ashore on the beach near the "Brogården" farm on Helnæs and was laid to rest in Helnæs cemetery on 14 August 1944. His remains were disinterred on 27 April 1948 and were evacuated to Ardennes American Cemetery.

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 memberes are remembered with a memorial in Årø, Denmark.

Photos



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

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, www.findagrave.com