



Personal info

Full name

JETER, James Wilbur

Date of birth

28 February 1924

Age

20

Place of birth

Arlington County, Virginia

Hometown

District of Columbia

Military service

Service number

O-829870

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

**351st Fighter Squadron,
353rd Fighter Group**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

25 November 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
F	2	26

Immediate family

Members

James B. Jeter (father)
Leona M. (Reeves) Jeter (mother)
Stanley Jeter (brother)
Mary S. Jeter (halfsister)
Barbara J. Jeter (halfsister)

Plane data

Serial number

44-14972

Data

Type: P51D-15NA
Destination: Merseburg, Germany
Mission: Bomber Escort
MACR: 10470

More information

James Jeter attended Eastern High School and worked at the Association of American Railroads.

He joined the Air Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve in Miami Beach, Florida, on 2 February 1943.

After crossing the English Channel, and shortly before reaching Germany, Lt Jeter reported that he was having some difficulty with his engine. After reporting this fact to the Squadron Leader, Lt Jeter was ordered to turn back and proceed to his home base. 1st Lt George J. Rosen was assigned to escort Lt Jeter back. A short while after turning homeward, Lt Jeter reported to his escort that his engine now appeared to be performing satisfactorily and that they would rejoin the Group. Both aircraft then turned to rejoin the remainder of the Group. Soon after turning, Lt Rosen noticed a long white stream of smoke or vapor flowing from Lt Jeter's aircraft, which he believed to be a coolant leak (Jeter's aircraft was not pulling contrails). As Lt Rosen was attempting to maneuver into a position to direct Lt. Jeter homeward, he (Lt Rosen) spotted five unidentified aircraft. Lt Rosen turned into the aircraft to establish their identity, and after determining that they were friendly aircraft, realized that the two had become separated. However, he was able to make contact by radio with Lt Jeter. Lt Jeter reported that it was necessary for him to land and that he spotted a field which he considered satisfactory to make a landing in. This field was believed to have been in Allied-held territory. No more was heard from Lt Jeter after this last report. His escort did not observe the landing.

A monument was erected at the location of the crash.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, [wwiimemorial](#), [NARA](#), [www.ancestry.com](#) - Family Tree

Photo source: FOHF, Bob Jeter (cousin), Jan Nieuwenhuis, [www.ancestry.com](#) - Flowerladycmswd