



### Personal info

Full name

**NICHOLS, James Oliver**

Date of birth

**4 May 1918**

Age

**25**

Place of birth

**Longwood, Pettis County, Missouri**

Hometown

**Longwood, Pettis County, Missouri**

### Military service

Service number

**37239419**

Rank

**Sergeant**

Unit

**614th Bombardment Squadron,  
401st Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster,  
Air Medal**

### Death & Grave

Status

**Missing in Action**

Date of death

**4 February 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Margraten**

**Walls of the Missing**

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Robert W. Nichols (father)**

**Pearl M.(Younger) Nichols (mother)**

**Robert W. Nichols (brother)**

**Roy W. Nichols (brother)**

**John D. Nichols (brother)**

**Mildred Nichols (sister)**

**Kenneth Nichols (brother)**

**Betty L. Nichols (sister)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**42-31036**

### Data

**Type: B-17G**

**Nickname: Nobody's Baby**

**Destination: Frankfurt am Main, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of the railroad yards**

**MACR: 2285**

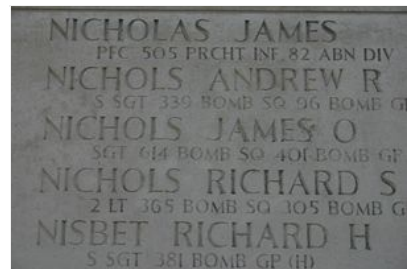
## More information

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The aircraft was apparently hit by flak, was straggling some 4,000 feet lower than the formation (about 18,000 feet). All four engines were turning over and the aircraft seemed to be under control. Flak was bursting around it when it was last seen.

The entire crew of 10 men was killed. Eight of them are remembered at the Walls of the Missing at Margraten; Two, Frank J. Zitkovic and Bascom O. Clifton, are remembered at the Walls of the Missing at Cambridge Cemetery.

## Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Janet Wear Enloe (niece of James O. Nichols), [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) - MACR, [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Cooper Family Tree

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Andy Swinnen