

## Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor  
Foundation



### Personal info

Full name

**DOWNARD, Jesse Roy**

Date of birth

**5 August 1923**

Age

**19**

Place of birth

**Bismarck, St. Francois County,  
Missouri**

Hometown

**Washington, Franklin County, Missouri**

### Military service

Service number

**17015695**

Rank

**Technical Sergeant**

Unit

**368th Bombardment Squadron,  
306th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

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

### Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**17 April 1943**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
D	6	2

## Immediate family

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### Members

**John H. Downard (father)**

**Ada B.I. (Meyers) Downard (mother)**

**Rose M. Downard (sister)**

**Mary R. Downard (sister)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**41-24467**

### Data

**Type: B-17F**

**Nickname: The Grim Reaper**

**Destination: Bremen, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of the Focke-Wulf aircraft factory**

**MACR: 15525**

## More information

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Jesse Downard was an architect.

He joined the Air Corps of the Regular Army at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri on 20 November 1940.

The aircraft was probably hit by flak. Eight crew members survived and were taken prisoner, two men were killed.

## Photos

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Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)

Photo source: Peter Schouteten