



## Personal info

Full name

**SMITH, John Roydon**

Date of birth

**26 October 1903**

Age

**40**

Place of birth

**Laconia, Belknap County, New  
Hampshire**

Hometown

**New Hampshire**

## Military service

Service number

**31110977**

Rank

**Staff Sergeant**

Unit

**331st Bombardment Squadron,  
94th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,  
Air Medal**

## Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**11 January 1944**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Ardennes**

Plot	Row	Grave
D	15	8

## Immediate family

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### Members

**Charles H. Smith (father)**

**Mabel E. (Floyd) Smith (mother)**

## Plane data

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### Serial number

**42-31216**

### Data

**Type: B-17G**

**Nickname: Patches**

**Destination: Braunschweig, Germany**

**MACR: 1884**

## More information

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John Smith enlisted on 29 July 1942 in Manchester, New Hampshire. He was no doubt considered an 'old man' by the majority of other recruits he found himself with of whom most were 10-20 years.

Hit by enemy fighters, their B-17 had to be ditched 50 km northeast of Lingen, Germany and the entire 10 man crew grabbed their parachutes and bailed from the damaged plane, but S/Sgt Smith's parachute failed to open.

The rest of the crew were all captured and were taken prisoner.

## Photos

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