

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

MC KEE, Philip

Date of birth

12 December 1923

Age

20

Place of birth

Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois

Hometown

Cook County, Illinois

Military service

Service number

36647268

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**856th Bombardment Squadron,
492nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

19 May 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
C	9	17

Immediate family

Members

Arthur N. Mc Kee (father)

Norma L. (Derrow) Mc Kee (mother)

Howard Mc Kee (brother)

Robert N. Mc Kee (brother)

Nancy Mc Kee (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

44-40088

Data

Type: B-24J

Nickname: Katie Jean

Destination: Brunswick, Germany

Mission: Bombing

MACR: 5246

More information

S/Sgt Philip Mc Kee attended Morgan Park High School.

On 19 May 44, they flew with the Group on a bombing mission to attack a marshalling yard in Brunswick, Germany. Their position in the Group's formation was on the far right. Always a dangerous position as the Luftwaffe often likes starting at one end, chewing their way across. As they were approaching their target, the 492nd got caught without fighter protection by about 40 German fighters. The wave of enemy FW-190s came in quickly from about one to two o'clock high. Just before the plane fireballed, Lt Wymond, Sgt Dorow and Sgt Kline were able to get out. The blast threw two more men, Lt DeRose and Lt Warakomski, from the plane and they survived and parachuted safely to the ground. All of the dead were initially buried in the Lutter Cemetery. After the war their bodies were recovered and buried in US cemeteries.

Photos



Source of information: Terry Hirsch, [492nd Bomb Group](#), [www.wwiimemorial.com](#), [Fold3](#) - MACR, [www.ancestry.com](#) - Headstone and Interment Record / 1930 Census, Chicago Tribune - 30 June 1944

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Chicago Tribune - 30 June 1944