

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

FECHO, Joseph

Date of birth

7 November 1916

Age

27

Place of birth

**Mahanoy City, Schuylkill County,
Pennsylvania**

Hometown

Yonkers, Westchester County, New York

Military service

Service number

32334948

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**535th Bombardment Squadron,
381st Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

20 December 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

| Plot | Row | Grave |
|------|-----|-------|
| D | 13 | 6 |

Immediate family

Members

Stephen Fecho (father)

Mary Fecho (mother)

Stephen Fecho (brother)

John Fecho (brother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-5846

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Tinker Toy

Destination: Bremen, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the port

MACR: 1723

More information

S/Sgt Joseph Fecho worked in a textile factory.

He enlisted at Fort Jay, Governors Island, New York on 12 May 1942.

Statement from Herbert J. Burgasser;

"I was flying in the Ball Turret position of ship no. 42-30765, in which Lt Emil Urban was the pilot, when I saw ship no. 42-5846 go down over the target. It was out of control and spinning down in flames when I last saw it, and at this time no fighters were attacking it. I was in the ship that was flying in the #2 position, second element, low squadron of the low group. Ship 42-5846 was in the same element, #3 position."

Statement from 2nd Lt Emil L. Urban;

"I was the pilot of A/C no. 42-30765, which was flying in the No. 2 position. At approximately the time of the bomb run, which was about 1147, fighters jumped us from the direction of 11 o'clock. One of the fighters rammed B-17F A/C no. 42-5846 which was flying in the #3 position. It was under control for about a minute then flipped over on its back and went into a spin."

Seven crew members were killed, three were taken prisoner.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Peter Schouteten, Terry Hirsch, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com - MACR, WWII Draft Card

Photo source: Jac Engels, Michel Beckers