



Personal info

Full name

SMITH, James Franklin Jr

Date of birth

21 May 1921

Age

22

Place of birth

Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama

Hometown

Montgomery, Montgomery County, Alabama

Military service

Service number

O-672005

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

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

Awards

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

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

17 August 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	27	21

Immediate family

Members

James F. Smith (father)

May A. (Irwin) Smith (mother)

Allie L. Smith (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

42-30389

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Dear Mom

Destination: Regensburg, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the Messerschmitt aircraft factory

MACR: 323

More information

James F. Smith Jr. was a swimming instructor and life guard at the Officers Club in Maxwell Field, Montgomery.

The airplane was hit during a frontal attack by Major Borris of JG-26.

One crew member was taken prisoner, two men evaded capture and six men were killed. They were initially buried at the cemetery of the airfield of Sint-Truiden, Belgium on 20 August 1943.

At the location of the crash, a monument was erected in memory of the crew.

Photos



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, Carla Mans, www.wwiiimemorial.com, www.archives.gov, <http://aircraft-crashes-belgium.jouwweb.be>, www.ancestry.com - 1930 Census / U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men

Photo source: Rudy Kenis, <http://aircraft-crashes-belgium.jouwweb.be/>, <https://www.americanairmuseum.com/person/108332>