

## Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor  
Foundation



### 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

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### Members

**James F. Smith (father)**

**May A. (Irwin) Smith (mother)**

**Allie L. Smith (sister)**

## Plane data

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### 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

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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.



Source of information: Peter Schouteten, Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, Carla Mans, [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov), <http://aircraft-crashes-belgium.jouwweb.be>, [www.ancestry.com](http://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>