



Personal info

Full name

NYREN, Ralph John

Date of birth

2 February 1918

Age

26

Place of birth

New York City, New York

Hometown

Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa

Military service

Service number

O-752931

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

**419th Bombardment Squadron,
301st Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

25 February 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
A	10	21

Immediate family

Members

Clarence Hedlund (father)

Beda Hedlund (mother)

David C. Nyren (adoptive father)

Anna B. (Johnson) Nyren (adoptive mother)

Mildred C. Nyren (sister)

Georgia G. (Gordinier) Nyren (wife)

Plane data

Serial number

42-30310

Data

Type: B-17F

Destination: Regensburg, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the Messerschmitt aviation industry

MACR: 2597

Biography

Ralph Nyren was born as Ralph John Hedlund. His father had abandoned him and his mother and when he was four years and seven months old, his mother died. In September 1922 he was adopted by David C. and Anna Nyren and was named Ralph John Nyren.

More information

Lt Nyren was a graduate of Roosevelt High School and was employed in the classified advertising department at The Register and Tribune.

He joined the Air Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve in Des Moines, Iowa on 10 August 1942.

The aircraft was shot down by enemy fighters.

According to a crew member of another plane in de formation it was on fire from the engine to the rear of the plane.

Seven crew members survived and were taken prisoner, three were killed.

It was presumed that 2n Lt Nyren could bail out and he did. His body was found in the Kasereck mountains the next day at an area that was very hard to reach in winter conditions. This is probably the reason he didn't survive the night.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com, www.ancestry.com - Waterloo Sunday Courier / 1930 Census / Iowa State Census Collection / WWII Bonus Case File, www.newspapers.com - The Des Moines Register

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Arie-Jan van Hees, Bombardier Class Book 43-12, Deming AAF, New Mexico