

Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

O'HARA, Robert Bernard

Date of birth

11 March 1920

Age

23

Place of birth

**Scranton, Lackawanna County,
Pennsylvania**

Hometown

Turtle Creek, Dallas County, Texas

Military service

Service number

O-672396

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

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

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

11 November 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
B	14	23

Immediate family

Members

John B. O'Hara (father)

Virginia L. Lazenby (mother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-39868

Data

Type: B-17G

Destination: Münster, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the marshalling yard

MACR: 1067

More information

The plane exploded in mid air. There was a very heavy front over the English Channel when they took off for Münster in the morning. They reached their target and were on their way back. As they were approaching the front, near the coast of the Netherlands, three Focke-Wolf 190's came out at about four to six hundred yards distance and engaged them, knocking out their No. 3 engine and also starting fire on the left wing. The airplane was strafed its full length and the interphones shot out. The pilot, is believed to have been hit at that time, because the airplane went into a wide bank and then into a spin, after which it exploded. The bombardier and two enlisted men landed in the water and were picked up by Dutch fisherman who were later overtaken by a German patrol boat.

The B-17 was shot down by Oblt Rudolf Leuschel of 8./JG26.

Three men survived and were taken prisoner. Seven men were killed.

The remains of the recovered crew members were initially buried at the cemetery of Rotterdam-Crooswijk.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com

Photo source: Christ van der Linden, Phi Gamma Delta - April 1944, Arie-Jan van Hees, Pilot Class Book 43-B, Goodfellow Field, Texas.