



Personal info

Full name

MEYER, Leonard Henry Herman

Date of birth

29 July 1920

Age

23

Place of birth

Nuckolls County, Nebraska

Hometown

Nuckolls County, Nebraska

Military service

Service number

O-702313

Rank

Second Lieutenant

Unit

**856th Bombardment Squadron,
492nd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Purple Heart

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

19 May 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	12	42

Immediate family

Members

Frank F. Meyer (father)
Louise D. (Schiermeyer) Meyer (mother)
Edwin H. Meyer (brother)
Velma Meyer (sister)
Clarence W. Meyer (brother)
Everett N. Meyer (brother)
Alice M. Meyer (sister)

Plane data

Serial number

44-40151

Data

Type: B-24J
Nickname: GI Joe
Destination: Brunswick, Germany
Mission: Bombing Mission
Target: Marshalling Yard, Brunswick, Germany
MACR: 5244

More information

2nd Lt Leonard H.H. Meyer graduated from Nelson High School in 1940. He attended the School of Commerce at Hastings.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps on February 27, 1943.

He was involved in a bombing raid to attack a marshalling yard at Brunswick, Germany. The 492nd Bomber Group was caught without fighter protection by the German Luftwaffe. After being severely hit by FW-190s, Pilot Pratt announced to his crew that they were going to bomb the target "come hell or high water!" But the spreading fire forced an order to abandon the airplane. Only 3 gunners made it out before the fire reached the bomb bay causing the aircraft to explode into a huge fireball.

Photos



Source of information: Michel Beckers, Terry Hirsch, 492ndbombgroup.com, MACR 5244

Photo source: Stephanie Meyer, Arie-Jan van Hees, Pilot Class Book 43-K, Blackland Army Air Field, Texas