



Personal info

Full name

HAMILTON, Thomas Currie

Date of birth

11 August 1911

Age

31

Place of birth

Manitoba, Canada

Hometown

Cook County, Illinois

Military service

Service number

36395733

Rank

Technical Sergeant

Unit

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

Awards

**Purple Heart,
Air Medal**

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

13 June 1943

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Ardennes

Plot	Row	Grave
D	9	25

Immediate family

Members

John W. Hamilton (father)

Mary E. (Currie) Hamilton (mother)

Earle L Hamilton (brother)

Plane data

Serial number

42-29957

Data

Type: B-17F

Nickname: Helno Gal II

Destination: Kiel, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the U-boat yards

MACR: 15556

More information

T/Sgt Thomas C. Hamilton was an electrician before he enlisted in Chicago, Illinois on 19 March 1942.

The aircraft was shot down by enemy fighters. The bombardier, 1st Lt Wilton H. Power, stated that they left the formation between the IP and the target. The pilot, co-pilot, bombardier, top turret, ball turret, tail gunner, radioman and right waist gunner all bailed out. He believed that everyone was out but Hamilton, left waist gunner, who was shot during action and he was almost positive about his death. He also states that all other members were in good condition, except for minor wounds. However, after interviewing parachuting crewman of other shot down B-17's that day, he believes the remainder of his crew, pilot, top turret, ball turret, tail gunner and right waist gunner were all shot in their parachutes as they were descending.

Six crew members were killed. Their remains were initially buried at the Garrison Cemetery of Kiel on 17 June 1943. Four crew members were taken prisoner.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, www.wwiimemorial.com, www.fold3.com, www.ancestry.com - U.S. Headstone and Interment Records for U.S. Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, www.findagrave.com - Walter Ram, www.newspapers.com - Chicago Tribune - 4 July 1943