



### Personal info

Full name

**PALMER, Joseph F**

Date of birth

**24 February 1920**

Age

**23**

Place of birth

**Pittsburg, Allegheny County,  
Pennsylvania**

Hometown

**Allegheny County, Pennsylvania**

### Military service

Service number

**O-791142**

Rank

**First Lieutenant**

Unit

**360th Bombardment Squadron,  
303rd Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

**Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster**

### Death & Grave

Status

**Killed in Action**

Date of death

**25 June 1943**

Cemetery

**American War Cemetery Margraten**

Plot	Row	Grave
N	14	8

## Immediate family

Members

**Frank H. Palmer (father)**

**Mary C. (Jennessee) Palmer (mother)**

**Charles Palmer (brother)**

## Plane data

Serial number

**42-5390**

Data

**Type: B-17F**

**Nickname: The Avenger**

**Destination: Hamburg, Germany**

**Mission: Bombing of the shipyards**

## More information

1st Lt. Joseph F. Palmer graduated from South Shore High School at the age of 16 in 1936. He graduated from Duquesne University with a major in Business and worked at Stratman accounting.

He volunteered for the Air Corps of the Army of the United States as an aviation cadet in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania on 18 December 1941.

Because the primary target at Hamburg was obscured by clouds, scattered attacks were made on targets of opportunity in northwest Germany.

The airplane was shot down by enemy fighters. Three crew members survived and were taken prisoner, seven men were killed.

Notes about the pictures: the third picture shows Lt Parker as a 16 year old high school graduation student in 1936. The fourth picture shows him together with his brother Charles during a reunion in 1943 in England.

## Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, [303rd Bomb Group](#), [www.ancestry.com](#) - 1920-1940 Census/ Army Enlistment Records / Will, Jennesse, Connell & Summers Family Tree / Veteran Compensation Application File / 303<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Group, Heavy "Hell's Angels" Mission Report 44, 25 June 1943

Photo source: Wendy Lensink, [303rd Bomb Group](#)