

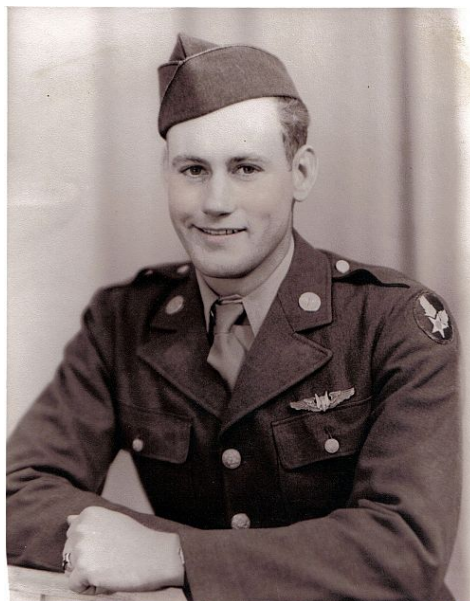
Fields of Honor Memorial

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Fields of Honor
Foundation



Personal info

Full name

BRYANT, Lenard Leroy

Date of birth

7 March 1919

Age

25

Place of birth

Alex, Grady County, Oklahoma

Hometown

Littefield, Lamb County, Texas

Military service

Service number

38344446

Rank

Staff Sergeant

Unit

**544th Bombardment Squadron,
384th Bombardment Group, Heavy**

Awards

Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

Death & Grave

Status

Killed in Action

Date of death

28 September 1944

Cemetery

American War Cemetery Margraten

Plot	Row	Grave
G	7	22

Immediate family

Members

John G. Bryant (father)

Fanny L. (Drake) Bryant (mother)

Chief Bryant (brother)

Booster Bryant (brother)

Coot Bryant (brother)

Dick Bryant (brother)

Earl Bryant (brother)

Jack Bryant (brother)

Buck Bryant (brother)

Lettie Bryant (sister)

Letha Bryant (sister)

Ruby M. (Baisden) Bryant (wife)

Plane data

Serial number

43-37822

Data

Type: B-17G

Nickname: Lead Banana

Destination: Magdeburg, Germany

Mission: Bombing of the oil refinery

MACR: 9753

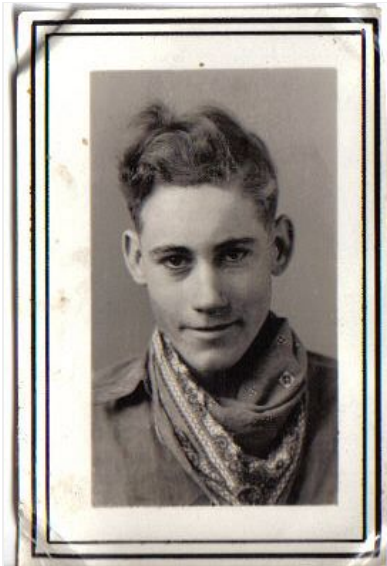
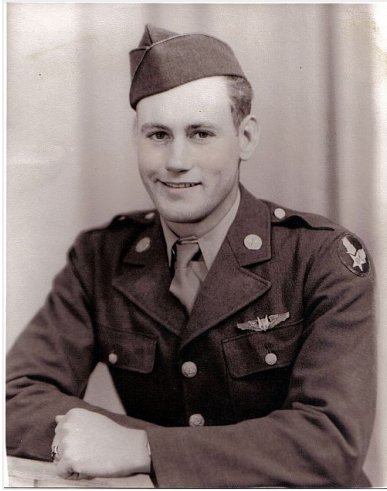
More information

Lt Wallace Storey, the pilot of another airplane in the same group, remembered what happened: "Flak was extremely heavy that day, and the Wing had been somewhat disrupted by the heavy opposition. We found ourselves on a crossing course with another Group and just after 'bombs away', the lead ship made a sharp descending right turn. Glancing to my right, I saw "Lazy Daisy" was sliding toward me. I pulled back on the control column to climb out of her path while keeping my eye on the # 2 ship of the lead element, Lt Buslee in #378 (43-37822), on whose wing our element was flying. I yelled for Gross to watch out for him to come out on the other side, and, sure enough, he slid under us and right into Buslee in the lead element. I watched the two planes as they collided. It cut #378 in half, and the wings on #222 folded up, and both planes fell in a fireball."

The airplane collided with airplane #42-31222 over the target. Both airplanes went down in fire and out of control. Eight crew members were killed, one survived and was taken prisoner.

Sgt Bryant was initially buried at the cemetery of Ostingersleben, Germany.

Photos



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Terry Hirsch, [384th Bomb Group](#), www.ancestry.com - U.S., Headstone and Interment Records for U.S. Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil

Photo source: Peter Schouteten, Derral Bryant, The Arrowhead Club / Cindy Farrar Bryan /Derral Bryant