

## Tom Waring



**Rank:** - Sergeant (Air Bomber)

**Number:** - 1621062

**Regiment:** - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve 12 Squadron Code PH

**Died:** - 29 May 1944, during Air operations over enemy territory

**Cemetery:** - Durnbach War Cemetery, Germany, Plot 8 Row G, Collective 6-11

Tom was born in 1923 in the Wakefield District the only son of Frank and Laura Waring nee Hirst who had married in 1916. The family moved to live at 32, Deighton Lane, Batley, Frank having grown up in the area. Tom attended Batley Grammar School and was a member of Old Boys' Flight Squadron A.T.C. After leaving school he was employed by the Prudential Assurance Company and Spenborough Engineering Company, Heckmondwike.

On 1 May 1944 he married Betty Marie Bottomley at Staincliffe Parish Church, (Batley News 6 May 1944) where about 90 guests were entertained in the church school before Tom and Betty left for a honeymoon at



Batley News, 6 May 1944 (photo); 28 Jul 1945 (Roll of Honour)

Morecambe and Blackpool. Both the best man, Sgt J. Collister, and the groomsmen Sgt Ackles, Sgt Kelso and Sgt White were members of the bridegroom's crew. His wife returned to live with her family at 9, Broom Street, Soothill.

Tom was the air bomber in Lancaster 111 ND 699, one of the 494 Lancasters and two Mosquitos of 135 and 8 Groups Bomber Command, which took part in the last of the series of raids on Stuttgart. His aircraft took off from Wickenby at 21.43 hours on 28 July and failed to return. Nothing was heard of it after take-off. Lancaster ND699 crashed at Renningen Schrauer. All the crew were killed. Losses on the raid were 39 Lancasters (7.9% of the attacking force).

Tom was awarded the 1939-45 Star and 1939-45 War Medal

He is remembered with Honour at Batley Grammar School; Royal Air Forces Association Club, Batley and Batley War Memorial.



Thanks to Bill Berry