

Jack Wilson



Photo courtesy of Bill Berry

Rank: - Sergeant (Flight Engineer)

Number: - 1691004

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 626 Sqdn.

Died: - Killed in raid on Karlsruhe, Germany 25/04/1944 Age: 23 years.

Cemetery: - Durnbach War Cemetery, Bayern, Germany. Coll. grave 3. H. 21-25.

Jack was born in Batley in 1921 the son of Arnold and Edith Annie Wilson (nee Hampshire). Ronald was born in 1919 followed by Jack 1921 and Marjorie 1922. Arnold, who was a hairdresser, died in 1929 aged 32 and Edith and the family were living at 5, Court 3, Taylor Street, Batley in 1939.

When Jack enlisted has not come to light but he was flight engineer on Avro Lancaster 111 DV 2 L2, one of ten Lancasters and 16 Mosquitos of 5 Group on a main night raid on Karlsruhe on 2 April 1944. The aircraft took off at 21.23 hours on 25 April from Wickenby and failed to return. On board with him were P/O G H Bainbridge, P/O V H Bernyk, F/S R H Crystal, F/S G H Davies, Sgt J G Hodge, F/O PF Korbyl. Records show that the plane was shot down by a night fighter and crashed at Plittersdorf 6 Km NW of Rastatt. Losses on the night were nine Lancasters (3.5 percent of the attacking force).

Jack was awarded the 1939-45 Star and 1939-5 War Medal.

He is remembered with Honour on the Wickenby Roll-of- Honour, Royal Air Association, Batley and Batley War Memorial.



Thanks to Bill Berry.