

Hindon

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War 2



1896933 SERGEANT

G. A. E. SANDAY

FLIGHT ENGINEER

ROYAL AIR FORCE VOLUNTEER RESERVE

24th FEBRUARY, 1945 AGE 38

Dear Son

Of W.T.C. And E.J. Sanday,

Worcester, England

George Arthur Edgar SANDAY

George Arthur Edgar Sanday was born in Worcester on 16th September, 1904 to parents William Thomas Croft Sanday and Emma Jane Sanday (nee Taylor). George's birth was registered in the district of Worcester in the December quarter of 1904. George's parents had married in the June quarter 1896 in the district of Droitwich, Worcestershire.

The 1911 Census recorded George Sanday as a 6 year old living with his family at Seagrave, 14 Richmond Road, Worcester in a six roomed dwelling. His parents were listed as William Sanday (Colliery Agent, aged 38, born Worcester) & Emma Jane Sanday (aged 40, born Droitwich). William & Emma Jane Sanday had been married for 15 years & had 4 children. George was the youngest of the four children listed on this Census – Violet Mary (aged 9), William (aged 13), Hubert (aged 12) then George. All the children had been born at Worcester. Also listed in the household was Gertrude Elvins, a 19 year old servant.

George Arthur Edgar Sanday married Phoebe E. L. Long in the district of Worcester in the June quarter, 1932.

Births for the following children were registered with the mother's maiden name of Long – Judith M. (Birth registered at Devizes, Wiltshire in September quarter 1934); Richard M. (Birth registered at Warminster, Wiltshire in December quarter 1937) & Simon W. (Birth registered at Mere, Wiltshire in June quarter 1943).

George Arthur Edgar Sanday enlisted with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. He had a service number of 1896933 & attained the rank of Sergeant while being a Flight Engineer.

Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday was attached to 462 Squadron R.A.F. He arrived at 462 Squadron on 16th September, 1944 from previous posting at 1658 CU (Riccall, Yorkshire); temporary rank of Sergeant on 31 July 1944; trained as flight engineer; attended courses for Halifax II and Halifax III; trained in Halifax II, Anson, Lancaster, B'ftr aircraft; fit for flying duties A1B & ACMB; Sgt Sanday's next of kin was his wife - Phoebe Eileen Sanday of Police Station, Hindon, near Salisbury, Wiltshire; additional contact W. T. C. Sanday (father) of "Boynton" Upper Newtown, Worcester.

Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday was the Flight Engineer on LL598 Mk.III Handley Page Halifax with 7 other crew, (Crew 52), piloted by Flight Officer A. E. Astill, 421143, when it crashed in the UK soon after take-off on the night of 14th January, 1945 while on Bomber Support. 6 Crew members were killed – only 2 survived – Sgt. G. A. Sanday & Flight Sgt. Reed, 435209.

"When at 4,000 feet, the starboard outer engine of this aircraft caught fire, the starboard outer mainplane also caught fire and the aircraft crashed 2 miles West of Shipdham Airfield, killing all members of the crew excepting the Flight Engineer (Sgt Sanday) and the rear gunner (F/Sgt Reed) who bailed out and made a safe landing. Their aircraft was a total loss and the remains were salvaged. Sgt Miles was buried in London and the Australian members were buried at Cambridge regional Cemetery."

"Aircraft LL.598-"A"/462 (Captain – P/O. Astill) crashed on fire, and six members of the crew were killed. The Flight Engineer and the Rear Gunner escaped by parachute, both slightly injured."

Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday was on MZ461 Mk.III Handley Page Halifax with 7 other crew, (Crew 39), piloted by Flight Officer V. C. Ely, 426221 when it left Foulsham on Bomber Support. It was assumed that MZ461 was hit by flak as there was no further word from the aircraft - it was lost at approximately 7.50 p.m. on 24th February, 1945. The wreckage of the aircraft was found at Anrater near Krefeld, Germany. All Crew members were killed in action.

Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday was killed in action on 24th February, 1945, aged 38 years.

Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday was buried in Venray War Cemetery, Netherlands – Plot Number VII. G. 12. (Other members of the Crew – Pilot Ely, Hetherington & Millhouse are remembered on Runnymede Memorial Germany. Critchley, Hering, Ogilvie & Robinson were buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany).

Sgt. Sanday's death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The CWGC lists Sergeant George Arthur Edgar Sanday, 1896933, aged 38, as the son William Thomas Croft Sanday and Emma Jane Sanday; husband of Eileen Sanday of Hindon, Wiltshire.

George Albert Edgar Sanday is remembered on the Hindon War Memorial.



Hindon War Memorial (Photos courtesy of Linda Robson 2013)



Venray War Cemetery

The town of Venray lies in the south of the Netherlands approx 40kms to the east of Eindhoven.

The Netherlands fell to the Germans in May 1940 and was not re-entered by Allied forces until September 1944.

The town of Venray was liberated by Allied troops in the middle of October 1944, and the burials in the cemetery date from October 1944 to March 1945.

Venray War Cemetery contains 692 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, 30 of them unidentified, and one Polish burial.

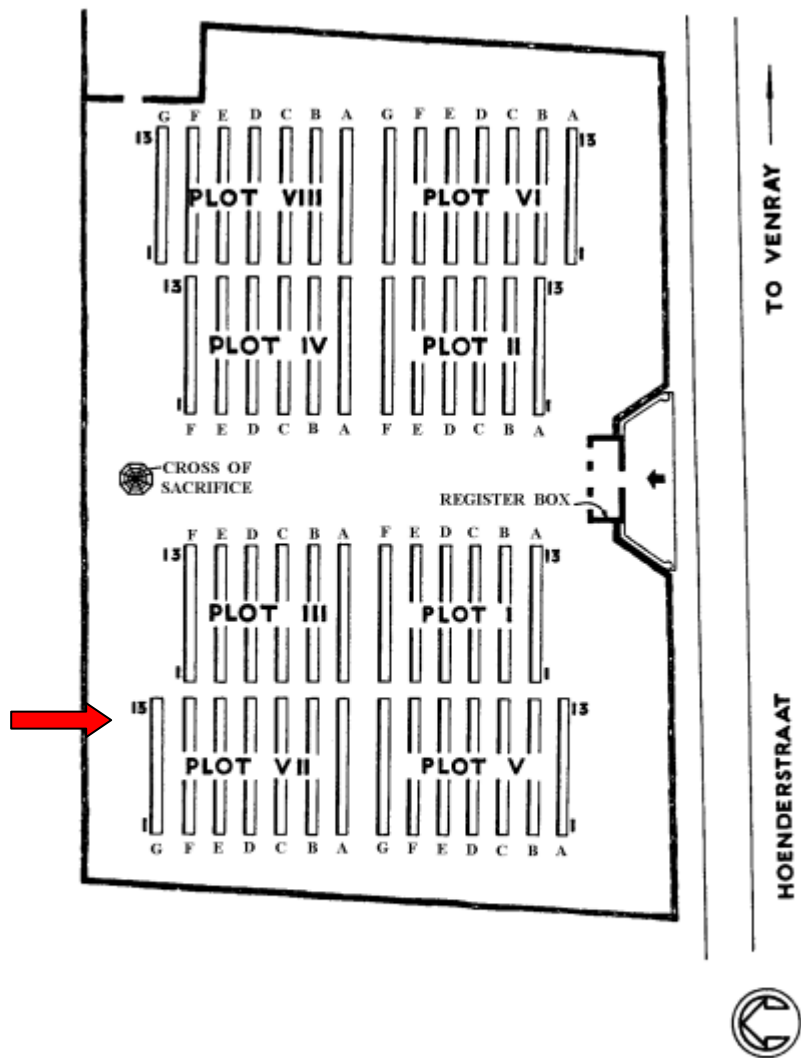


Venray War Cemetery

Photo of Sergeant G. A. E. Sanday's CWGC headstone located at Venray War Cemetery, Limburg, Netherlands.



(Photo courtesy of Fred www.findagrave.com)



VENRAY WAR CEMETERY