

War Memorial – The Green, Castle Bromwich

World War II 1939-1945

Flying Officer (Navigator) Bernard Johnson (1916-1943) 127493 Royal Air Force (Volunteer Regiment) 207th Squadron died aged 26



Bernard was born on 3rd April 1916 in Aston, Warwickshire to parents Daniel Albert and Maud Elizabeth Johnson (née Adams). He married Marjorie Kathleen Knowles in Birmingham in July 1939 and at that time they were living in Castle Bromwich.

The 207th Squadron was based at RAF Langar, Nottinghamshire between September 1942 to October 1943 flying Avro Lancaster MK1 bombers. Bernard died at the beginning of the five-month bombing campaign known as the Air Battle of the Ruhr on 3rd March 1943. On that day, the crew flew from their base heading for Hamburg, Germany, but crashed around 7.00pm that evening just short of their target at Wedel, all missing assumed dead. The pilot, Sgt P Evison, had been injured three weeks earlier when crash landing on return to base at RAF Langer.

Bernard is buried at the Hamburg Cemetery, Germany, the memorial inscription reads *"Ever loved and honoured, God keep you, wife and Valorie, mother and dad"* and he is also commemorated at the war memorial at The Green, Castle Bromwich.

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Lancaster Mk I bombers