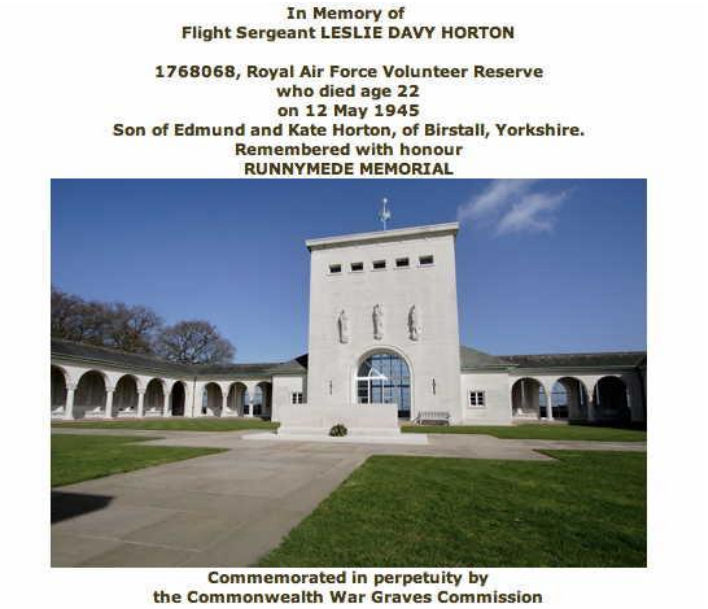
Leslie Davy Horton





Rank: - Flight Sergeant (Navigator)

Number: - 1768068

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Died: - 12 May 1945, reported missing on a flight from South Wales to his home base.

Cemetery: - Runnymede Memorial Panel 271

Leslie Davy was born in Birstall in 1923 the son of Edmund and Kate Horton nee Davy, who had married on 15 Apr 1922, at St. Peters Church, Birstall.

His brother Eric Wrigglesworth was born in January 1926. The family in 1939 lived at 9, Middlegate, Birstall.

Leslie attended Birstall Parish Church School and Batley Grammar School and was a server at Birstall Church. He became employed at Kempac Ltd. Bradford Road, Birstall, as a dispatch clerk, and joined the RAF in late 1941. He was a police messenger and a member of Carlinghow Youth Group.

Leslie was flying from Pembrey in South Wales to RAF Manby in Lincolnshire with no radio and was reported missing. The weather at the time he should have landed at RAF Manby was poor with fog and sea mist. Nothing was seen or heard of the plane and it was believed the plane had crashed into the sea.

Leslie was awarded the Air Crew Europe Star; 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal.



FLIGHT-SERGT. REPORTED MISSING

Plane Untraced

Mr. and Mrs. E. Horton have been notified that their eldest son, Flight-Sergt. Navigator Leslie Davy Horton (22), is reported missing on a flight from South Wales to his home base.

The plane has not been seen nor heard of.

He attended Birstall Parish Church and School and Batley Grammar School, and he was a server at Birstall Church. He became employed at Kempac Ltd., Bradford Road, Birstall, as a dispatch clerk, and joined the R.A.F. 3½ years ago. He was a police messenger and a member of Carlinghow Youth Group.

His brother, Pte. Eric Horton (19), is in the Army after transfer from the R.A.F.

Leslie D. Horton.

Batley News, 19 May 1945

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



Researched by members of
Batley History Group