Samuel Long



Rank: -Sergeant

Number: - 1595256

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve Roll: Air Gunner

Reported missing on a test flight: - 13/02/1944 Age: 34 years

Memorial: - Runnymede Memorial, Surrey Panel 233.

Air-Gunner Missing

Mrs. Long, 38, Bunkers Lane, Staincliffe, has received official news that her husband, Sergt. Air Gunner Samuel Long, is missing on a test flight. Before joining the R.A.F. last July, Sergt. Long was employed by Messrs. J. Blackburn (Staincliffe). He has five young children.

Batley News, 4 Mar 1944

Samuel was born in Healey, Ossett on the 7 May 1909 the son of John Charles and Edith Long nee Audsley. In 1930 he married Annie Donovan and Joan was born in 1931 followed by Joyce 1932, Shirley 1935, Patricia M 1941, Maureen 1943.

The family in 1939 was living at 38, Bunkers Lane, Staincliffe and Samuel was employed at Messrs. J. Blackburn (Staincliffe) as a Foreman dryer at the dye house. They still lived at the same address when he enlisted in the R.A.F. in July 1943 and when he went missing.

He was posted to serve at No 15 Operational Training Unit, Harwell where he went missing on a training flight on 13 February 1944.Leaving Harwell at 18.52 with the intention of flying base- Taunton-Bideford- St.Mary's –Skomer Island-Fishguard- Worcester-base. At 22.10, the crew obtained a dix which showed they were more or less on track. Ten minuteslater, the aircraft was plotted as showing broad Identification Friend of Foe emissions, after which nothing further was heard. Annie married Charles Bould in the summer of 1946.

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

He is remembered with Honour at Batley Grammar School; Holy Trinity, Batley Carr, Lychgate Memorial; Batley Carr Working Men's Club; Royal Air Forces Association Club, Batley.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group