Alan McKenzie





Rank: - Sergeant (Air Gunner)

Number: - 1594165

Regiment: - Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 630 Squadron

Died: - 17 August 1944

Cemetery: - Poznan, Poland Old Garrison Cemetery, Commonwealth Section Plot 6 Row B Coll. grave 6. B. 2-8.

Batley News, 23 Dec 1944; 30 Dec 1944 (photo**)**

Alan was born in Batley on the 18 June 1923 the son of Donald Lyle and Ellen McKenzie nee Brooks who had married in 1916 in the Ripon area. Irene was born in 1920 followed by Alan and Elizabeth L in 1926. The family lived at 7, Field Lane, Batley. Alan was apprenticed to Mr. Albert Downes, plumber, Cross Mill Street,

Batley until he joined up in the summer of 1943. His sister, Irene, joined the Women's Land Army. Alan attended Zion Methodist Church.

Alan was first reported missing, on his 17th operational flight, in August 1944. His father died 12 days later and was buried on the 1st September. It was confirmed in December 1944 that Alan was missing and was killed in a raid on Stettin. A force of 461 Lancaster's attacked the port and industrial areas on the night of August 16/17, 1944, with a loss of five aircraft. Bomber Command claimed an accurate attack with five ships sunk and eight seriously damaged. No.630 Squadron was formed at Eat Kirkby, in November 1943 and flew Lancaster's with 5 Group until the end of the war. It was disbanded in July 1945.

Alan is remembered with Honour at Royal Air Forces Association Club, Batley and Batley War Memorial.



Thanks to Bill Berry.