

Alan Peter James GRUNDY, 95532
Sergeant, Royal Air Force, 106 Squadron

Alan's parents were James Grundy and Katherine Lucy, née Cannon.

James was born in 1889 in Prestwich, Lancashire. He was the son of a solicitor. James and his three brothers were boarders at The Grammar School, Rivington, Lancashire and later they all became pupils at Repton School, boarding at The Hall. After studying at Hertford College, Oxford and gaining a BA in history, James became an assistant master at Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk in 1912. He returned to Repton in 1914 to take up a similar teaching post at the school.

Katherine was born in Bolton in 1884. Her father was also a solicitor and the family later lived in Southport. James and Katherine married in 1916. They had a daughter Helen, followed by their only other child, Alan, who was born in 1920.

In 1916 James received two commissions, becoming a lieutenant in the Leicester Regiment, Cadet Company, from the unattached list for the Territorial Force, serving with the Repton School Contingent. He then served in France, 1916-1918.

On 1 August 1920 James was registered as a teacher and he went on to gain a MA in 1921. In the 1935 Directory the family's address was given as The Pastures, Repton. In the same Directory his brother Albert was also teaching at Repton School and lived nearby in The Pastures. Katherine was a manager (governor) at Repton C E School. Both died in Sussex, James in 1957 and Katherine in 1959.

Alan was a sergeant with the Royal Air Force, 106 Squadron.



106 Squadron

For freedom

106 Squadron was first formed at Andover, Hampshire in 1917 and disbanded in 1919. It re-formed in June 1938 at Abingdon. It was initially involved in a training role but was relieved of the role in September 1940, when it began mine-laying missions. In 1941 the squadron was based at Coningsby, Lincolnshire, where it was involved in night time bomber operations over Cologne. At this time the squadron was equipped with Handley Page Hampden aircraft.

The squadron was later equipped with Manchester then Lancaster aircraft and moved on to other bases. It continued as part of Bomber Command's Main Force for the remainder of the war,

On 26 August 1941 part of the squadron took off for a mission at Cologne. At 22.45 Alan and his fellow crew members flew from Coningsby in a Hampden Type 1 aircraft, serial number AE302, code ZN. Their mission was planned for Wednesday, 27 August but their aircraft did not return. Alan was 21.



Handley Page Hampden, Type 1

Alan does not have a grave, but is remembered on Panel 44 at the Air Forces' Memorial at Runnymede, Surrey. Further information on the Memorial is included in the document on Anthony Wallace Adams. Alan is also named on the War Memorial at Repton and the Roll of Honour at St Wystan's Church, Repton.