

Horace Horatio Pearson, 134671

Flying Officer, Air Bomber, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 10 Squadron

Horace Horatio Pearson was the son of Horace Pearson and Annie, née Cripps.

Horace was born in 1891 in Clowne, Derbyshire. His father was a coal miner. In 1911 Horace also worked at the mine as a blacksmith, pick sharpener.

Annie was born in Edinburgh c1895. In 1901 she was living with her family in Edward Square, Islington. Her father Horatio, was a railway detective policeman, and was born in St Pancreas. Her mother Kittie was born in Lincolnshire. Annie was the oldest child, then came her brother Horatio, born in Edinburgh and then a sister Kittie, who was born in Nottingham. There were four boarders living with the family, i.e. three railway policemen from Nottingham and Lincolnshire, and the fourth was William L Leiper, a detective clerk on the railway, who was born in Repton.

In 1911 Annie was living with her family at The Club, Whitwell, Mansfield. Her father Horatio was now the club steward and Annie was helping her father. Her brother Horatio, aged 14, was a pit lad pony driver, working below ground. Her sister Kittie was still in school, as was Ivy, aged 6, born in Darfield, Yorkshire.

Horace and Annie married 1916 in the Worksop registration district, Nottinghamshire. Horace was badly gassed in WWI and lost his right foot. Horace Horatio was born in 1918 and his sister Vivian in 1921. The family moved to The Boot Inn, Repton, in April 1940 and the final transfer of the licence was granted to Horace on 1 May 1940 at the Melbourne Petty Sessions. Horace became depressed after the death of his son in 1943 and took his own life in 1948. He is buried in St Wystan's Churchyard, Repton.



No 10 Squadron

To hit the mark

Bomber Command



Burton Observer, July 8 1943

*'FLYING OFFICER H. PEARSON,
REPTON, REPORTED MISSING.*

*Flying Officer Horace Pearson, only son of Mr and Mrs H Pearson, of The Boot Inn, Repton,
has been reported missing.*

*He is twenty four years of age, and joined the Volunteer Reserves of the RAF just before the
outbreak of war. He passed through his training under the Government scheme in Canada,
receiving his wing as an observer in November 1942, and two days later being commissioned
as a pilot officer. In May of this year he was promoted to Flying Officer.*

In civil life he was a surveyor and came with his family to Repton in April 1940.'



Handley Page Halifax BII

Halifax Mark II DT783ZA took off from RAF Melbourne, Yorkshire, at 23.37 on the 28 June 1943, with a target of Koln (Cologne) Germany. The plane crashed at Wolfspuit, Holland. All of the crew were killed and are buried at Eindhoven.

The crew were:

Sergeant Alfred Bailey, 1081675, aged 21, Wireless Operator/Air Gunner of the RAF Volunteer Service. He was the son of Walter and Ada Cross of Canklow, Rotherham, Yorkshire

Flight Sergeant Joseph Gerald Sweeney, R/90889, aged 22, Air Gunner of the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was the son of Eugene Sweeney and Angelena, née McDonald.

Flight Sergeant Harry Erickson, R/116318, aged 21 of the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was the son of Alex and Alvina Erickson of Onanole, Manitoba, Canada.

Flight Sergeant Paul Leopold Rakoczy, R/137366, aged 22, Navigator of the Royal Canadian Air Force. He was the son of John and Caroline Rakoczy of USA.

Flying Officer Horace Horatio Pearson.

Sergeant Horace Pape, 547328, aged 22, Flight Engineer of the RAF. He was the son of John and Susannah Pape, husband of Monica Pape of Huyton, Lancashire.

Flying Officer Stanley Peate, 117424, aged 20 of the RAF. He was the son of Edgar Doris Peate, of Sheffield; and husband of Constance Ivy Peate, of Pitsmoor, Sheffield.

Horace died on 29 June 1943, aged 24. He is buried in plot EE, grave 61, at Eindhoven (Woensel) General Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands.

Eindhoven is in the south of the Netherlands and the cemetery has 661 graves of identified casualties. There were a total of 36 airmen killed on 29 June 1943 that were buried at the Eindhoven Cemetery. The casualties were from 44, 100, 149, 419 and 619 Squadrons, plus

an airman from the Royal Australian Air Force, who was from Cloncurry, North West Queensland.



IN
LOVING MEMORY OF
HORACE PEARSON.
WHO DIED APRIL 5. 1948. AGED 57.
ALSO FLYING OFFICER H. H. PEARSON
HIS SON,
WHO MADE HIS LAST FLIGHT JUNE 28.
1943,
AGED 24.
INTERRED AT
EINDHOVEN,
HOLLAND.
MIZPAH.

St Wystan's Churchyard, Repton

Mizpah refers to a type of emotional bond between two people separated, either physically or by the death of one of the persons.