

In Memory of Flying Officer Horace Callow

1917 - 1944

(No. 75 Squadron, Royal New Zealand Air Force)

Age: 27

Parents: William Callow & Matilda Hazlewood

Conflict: World War II

Country Enlisted In: New Zealand

Country of Death: The Netherlands

Relation: Paternal 3rd Cousin 2X Removed



Horace Callow was born in 1916 in New Zealand, the son of William Bridson and Matilda (Hazlewood) Callow. He grew up in a family that would ultimately give more than one son to the war, a burden carried quietly and at great cost.

He enlisted in the Royal New Zealand Air Force and served operationally with No. 75 Squadron, Royal Air Force, a Bomber Command unit crewed largely by New Zealand airmen. Trained as a Navigator, Flying Officer Callow took part in long-range night bombing operations over heavily defended targets in occupied Europe, where precision, endurance, and calm judgement were essential to survival.

On the night of 21 July 1944, Flying Officer Callow was flying aboard Avro Lancaster ME752 during a raid on the oil plant at Homberg. While returning from the operation, the aircraft was shot down near Heythuysen, approximately eight miles east of Weert, in the Netherlands. The Lancaster crashed at Aan de Kreppel, Heythuysen, Limburg.

The aircraft was claimed by German night fighters. Of the crew, two survived, one of whom successfully evaded capture. Flying Officer Horace Callow was killed in action. He was twenty-seven years old.

He was initially buried at Heythuysen, and later reinterred at the Jonkerbos War Cemetery, where

*Flying Officer
Royal New Zealand Air Force*



Commonwealth airmen who fell in the liberation of Europe are laid to rest. There, his grave stands among those whose service ended far from home.

Flying Officer Callow's death followed that of his elder brother, Special Lieutenant Douglas William Callow, of the Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve, who was lost at sea with H.M.S. *Lightning* in March 1943. Together, the Callow brothers represent New Zealand's service in both air and sea, and a family's sacrifice carried across the breadth of the war.

Flying Officer Horace Callow did not return. He is remembered for his service in the air, his duty faithfully carried out, and a life ended in the course of that service.



Jonkerbos War Cemetery
Nijmegen, Gelderland, Netherlands