

Milton Victor Riddle
Sergeant in 102 Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
Service number 1323687
Age 27

Milton was born on 7th September 1915, the son of Edwin and Julia Riddle.

Edwin Riddle aged 24 married Julia Sarah Battrick aged 24 in the early part of 1899. Edwin was a grocer's porter.

Their son Herbert was born at the end of 1900, and was their only child until Milton was born in 1915. The family were living at East St Corfe Castle in 1901, and were still there in 1911, when Edwin was the clerk of the clay works. They later moved to New Cottages at Norden, where they were living in September 1939.

Herbert joined the Royal Navy in September 1918 and served for 12 years.

Julia died in 1950 aged 75, and Edwin died in 1955 aged 80.

Milton aged 21 married Catherine May Phippard aged 17 in July 1936, registered at Wareham. They had two children, a girl born in the middle of 1938 and a boy born in early 1940.

In September 1939, Milton was living at The Knapp, East Street Corfe Castle, with Catherine his wife. He was an engine driver at the clay works.

Milton was an air gunner with 102 Squadron, and died on 9th November 1942.

He was in a Halifax II serial no. W7864. They took off at 17:52 on 9 Nov 1942 on a night raid from Pocklington in Yorkshire. Their destination was Hamburg. They crashed at 20:37 in the North Sea - Assumed to have been about 40 km west of Wijk aan Zee [Noord-Holland]. Claimed to have been shot down by Hauptmann Helmut Lent (II./NJG 2). In all 213 aircraft set off on the mission, which incurred 15 losses. Many weather problems, including cloud, wind and icing, and absence of a successful PFF marker (Pathfinder flares) conspired to make this raid relatively unsuccessful.

The aircraft was lost without trace. Six Canadians and two RAF Sergeants.



Milton Victor Riddle

Commemorated at the Runnymede Memorial and on the Memorial at Corfe Castle