

Flying Officer Howard Weaver

No. 424 Squadron, RCAF

Family Life

Howard McElroy Weaver was born to Howard and Isabel on December 23, 1921, near Bognor, Ontario. He attended public school in Sydenham Township and Meaford High School where he earned his senior matriculation. At the time of enlistment Howard was working at a sawmill in Bognor that was managed by his father. He indicated on the Occupational Service Form in his service file that his aspiration was to take an engineering university course when he returned from war.



Decorations

- 1939-1945 Star
- Air Crew Europe Star
- Defence Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp
- War Medal 1939-1945

Military Service

Flying Officer Weaver enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force on August 28, 1942. An initial assessment described him as "sincere, quiet, intelligent, co-operative, [and] well, should make good aircrew material." FO. Weaver qualified as a navigator in Canada before proceeding overseas to the United Kingdom in April 1944. After being attached to No. 1659 Conversion Unit, he was transferred to No. 424 Squadron, RCAF, to begin active operations.

On the night of March 5/6, 14 Lancaster bombers from 424 Squadron were included as part of a larger operation to bomb Chemnitz, Germany. Lancaster NG458 QBH was one of 14 Lancasters lost during the raid. It is believed NG485 collided midair with an escorting fighter resulting in an explosion. All seven crew members were killed including Navigator FO. Weaver. He is commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial, United Kingdom.