

Alfred Harris was born in Hackney, London on the 17th June 1920. His parents were Hyman and Rose nee Phillips who were married the year before his birth in London City. Alfie's brother Harry was born in 1923.

There are not many details about Alfie's early life, but his family know that he was friends with Nathan Blom, who was to become Alfie's brother in law when he married Kate Blom in 1944. His RAF paybook also states that he was a designer in civilian life.

In 1939, the Harris family were living at 18 Louisa Street, Hackney. Alfie's father Hyman was working as a bookmaker's clerk and his brother Harry was a gent's hairdresser. Alfie had already attested into the RAFVR on 4 September 1939, and his paybook also details that Alfie's family had moved by 1942 to 9 Drysdale Flats, Dunn Street, Shacklewell Lane, Hackney.

Alfie was sent for training to RAF Lossiemouth and qualified as a flight engineer in May 1944. He then went on leave to marry Kate Blom. On the 4 June 1944, Alfie married Kate in St John's Wood Synagogue. Alfie was 23 and Kate was 25. The marriage was witnessed by Kate's brother in law and uncle. The certificate states that Alfie is in the RAF and Kate works as a storekeeper and Alfie's father is working as a commission agent (bookmaker).

Kate and Alfie were married less than five months when he was killed.