

Kenneth Holme was born on 27 March 1912 at his family home, Derby House, Slyne with Hest, Lancashire. He was the son of George Holme and Agnes Kennedy, who were both baptised Christians.

Kenneth had two older siblings, George born in 1907 and Margaret born in 1909. Their mother died in 1917 at the age of thirty-seven, when Kenneth was only four years old. Between 1921 and 1930 Kenneth attended Lancaster Royal Grammar school. When he finished school, at the age of eighteen, Kenneth joined Phoenix Insurance company as a junior working in their Preston office. In 1934 he gained his advanced diploma in insurance and was appointed as an inspector in Lancaster. In 1936 he met Eileen Norman in Manchester. Eileen's family descended from the Franks who were amongst the first Jews to set up a community in Manchester.

Kenneth and Eileen married in October 1937 and on 7 July 1938 Kenneth converted to Judaism at Park Place Synagogue in Manchester. In 1938, Kenneth took a position in the accident department of Phoenix Insurance in Manchester.

In April 1939, Kenneth's brother George enlisted into the Blackpool Regiment, and was sadly killed on 7 January 1942 in Malaya. His story can be found on another link.

The 1939 Register lists Eileen living with her mother Rose and brother Joseph at 80 South Park Road in Cheadle. The following year in 1940, Kenneth and Eileen had a son named Jonathan. Kenneth was working in insurance and was also volunteer ground crew with Balloon Command until 1942 when he joined air crew.

Kenneth undertook training as a navigator and was posted into 76 Squadron from 1658 HCU on the 18 June 1943. Kenneth took part in eight successful operations and was killed on his ninth operation on the 31 August 1943.

Kenneth left behind his widow Eileen and four-year-old son Jonathan. See the link on 'When did I last see my Father?' by Jonathan Kay.