

Woolf Jack Summers was the son of Moishe and Golda nee Fick and was born on 27 March 1922. Moishe known as Morris was born in 1888 in Kishinev, Romania and Golda was born in Odessa, Ukraine in 1891.

Morris's family surname was originally Seratsky and Morris and Golda married before 1910 when their first child Solomon was born in London. Morris and Golda had 13 children of which 10 survived childhood. Solomon born 1910, Janie born 1912 and died 1913, David born 1914, Annie born 1916, Woolf born 1922, Samuel born 1923, Abraham born 1926, Bernard born 1927, Beatrice born and died in 1928, Charles born 1930 and died 1931, Israel born 1932, Henry born 1934 and Frances born 1937.

Morris worked as a tailor's under presser and in 1939 the family were living at 112 Brady Street Mansions in Stepney. Morris is still using the name Seratsky but others in the family have changed their surname to Summers.

Woolf known as Willy attended Fairclough Street school in the east end of London. After school he worked for a dress firm and at the age of nineteen, he became the head cloth buyer for the dress firm Ornstein & Massoff whose brand name was Mornessa.

Willy was a prominent and active member of the East London Jewish Youth Club, Oxford and St Georges and also enjoyed playing the clarinet.

He enlisted into the RAF on 1 September 1941 and was recommended for training as a wireless operator/air gunner.

Willy completed two years and one hundred and seventy-seven days in service before he was killed aged 22 years.

***Grateful thanks to Eddy Summers, Willy's brother for providing the information and photographs. Eddy was twelve when his brother was killed.***

## Operation

### Crew details

RNZAF 42367 P/O Harold H Bruhns DFC – Pilot - age 22

1575513 Sgt Eric A Wilkes – Navigator – age 22

1601839 Sgt James W Harry – Flight Engineer – age 20

1395702 Sgt Woolf J Summers – Wireless Operator/Air Gunner – age 22

RAAF 417521 F/Sgt Arthur H Sawtell – Air gunner – age 19

RNZAF 421672 Sgt Laurie L Butler – Air Bomber – age 22

1392121 Sgt Robert E Hall - Air Gunner – age 35

Stirling EH948 took off at 18.10 from RAF Mepal on the 24 February 1944 on a mine laying operation. The aircraft was believed to have been involved in a flying battle and crashed in the Kiel Bay/Baltic Sea.

Arthur Sawtell's body was found washed ashore and he was buried in Aabenraa Cemetery, Denmark on 5 July 1944. The other crew are listed as missing in action and are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.