

In Memory of

Sergeant

# Ernest Albert Goudie

1563229, 76 Sqdn., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who died on 05 November 1944 Age 31

C.A. Son of Robert John and Jemima Catherine Goudie, of Edinburgh; husband of Elizabeth H. Goudie, of Edinburgh.

Remembered with Honour

Hotton War Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

# Sergeant Ernest Albert Goudie

10/11/1912 – 5/11/1944

**Navigator, 76 Sqdn., Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve**

Service Number: 1563229

Died: 5<sup>th</sup> November 1944                      Age: 31

How Died: Aircraft shot down

Country of burial: Belgium

Cemetery or Memorial: Hotton War Cemetery

Other memorial: Warriston Cemetery in Edinburgh

## **Extra Information**

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Son of Robert John and Jemima Catherine Goudie, of Edinburgh;  
husband of Elizabeth H. Goudie, of Edinburgh..

Father of Elizabeth Downie

Ernest was born in Leith to Jemima Tait and Robert Goudie. Both Jemima and Robert were of Shetland ancestry though the family had moved to Leith, the port of Edinburgh, around 1875 as Thomas Tait, Ernest's grandfather, was a seaman and later a Sea Captain. Ernest had two sisters, Gertrude and Alice and a brother Ronald. Sadly Ronald died in an accident when he was just 29.

Gertrude married Robert Mactaggart, a farmer. They lived in the Scottish borders and kept the family supplied with farm produce during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War! Alice married a Canadian soldier at the end of the war and emigrated to Canada.

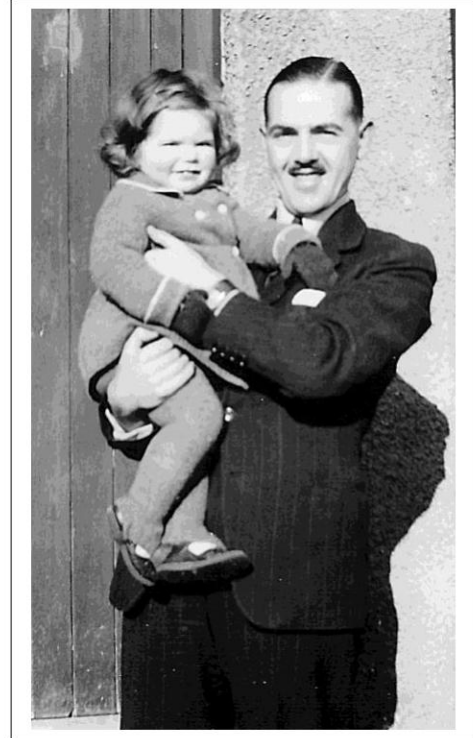
Ernest attended George Watson's College in Edinburgh and on leaving school trained as a Chartered Accountant. He was a first class pianist and had a Challen baby grand piano at home. He was a Church organist and was an elder in the Methodist Church.

He was also a keen tennis player and met Betty Buchanan at Corstorphine Tennis Club. They were married in Palmerston Place Church of Scotland in Edinburgh on 27/7/1940.

Betty's parents, who were living and working in India, had bought a flat in Corstorphine, a suburb in the West of Edinburgh, for their retirement. After their marriage, Ernest and Betty lived in this flat, together with their daughter, Elizabeth, who was born on 24/5/1942.



*Ernest playing his piano*



*with daughter Elizabeth, aged 2*

Ernest was a fire-watcher in Edinburgh during the early part of the war and was then called up for active service when the company he worked for as a chartered accountant, omitted to submit his exemption papers on time.

He volunteered for the RAF and then did much of his training in South Africa. He trained on Halifax bombers as a navigator and was posted to 76 Squadron.

On the night of 4<sup>th</sup> November 1944 they took off for their **first mission** to bomb Bochum but were shot down with the lives of all 7 of the crew being lost. They are buried together in a row in Hotton Cemetery in Belgium.

There is also a Goudie family grave in Warriston Cemetery in Edinburgh where Ernest's Father, Mother and Brother are buried and Ernest's name is on the tombstone as "Killed in Action", interred in Hotton War Cemetery in Luxembourg Province in Belgium.