Arthur John Fitzgerald 03 October 1923 to 15 July 1951

Arthur was born in St Catharines, Ontario, Canada. A small town near Niagra Falls. He was the youngest of four brothers.

Joined the RCAF in December 1943 and trained at Gunnery school in Manitoba. Weather was very cold and snowy. He finished this course in January 1944.

Moved to Lincolnshire to help fight in WW2, being a rear gunner on Lancasters in 1944. Squadron 150. He did a full tour of ops. Whilst here in UK he married Kathleen and had a daughter Susan, born in Grimsby.

After the end of the war Arthur returned to his home town. Kathleen and Susan followed on the Queen Mary and after docking at Halifax, Nova Scotia, had a 6 day train ride to St. Catharines where sadly Susan died of a severe infection caught from stale water on the train.

As work was scarce in Canada, Arthur, Kathleen and their son Rodney (me - born May 1947) returned to Lincolnshire, where Arthur joined the RAF in 1949. He was an official photographer during the flights.

15/9/1949 set off to be part of the Battle of Britain flypast but were returned to base due to heavy fog: Squadron 101.

Squadron 280 OCU.....

In 1951 the Avro Lincoln he was a crew member of, crashed on landing at Welton and all 7 crew members killed. This flight was an Operational Conversion Unit, based at RAF Scampton, to test mapping radar. Please see details of crash at Graham Peter's entry.

Arthur is buried, grave 99, in Scampton churchyard. Kathleen's ashes (2008) are buried there as well.

I am in touch with cousins in Canada and have visited the cemetery where my grandparents and sister (Susan) are buried. *Rodney Fitzgerald (annrodfitz@vahoo.co.uk)*





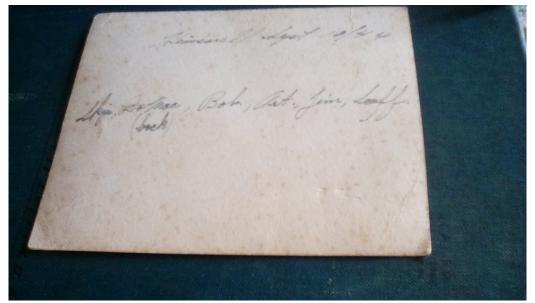


Aircrew

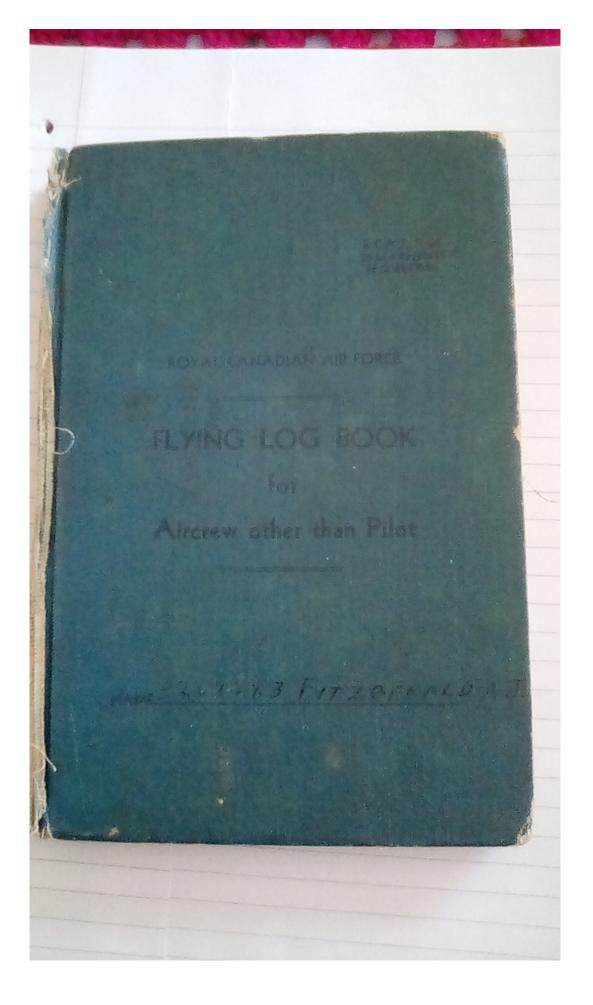


Arthur Fitzgerald – back row 3^{rd} from right





Rear of photo



TIME CARRIED FORWARD :---221.2 REMARKS Including results of bombing, gunnery, exercises, etc.) FLYL DAY BUMMARY OF HOURS FLOWN AT NO. 230 0.C.U. HOURS DAY 37:40 HOURS NIGHT 17:25 TAL HOURS 55.05 70 Certified Correct: Fileder F/ET. GUNNERY LEADER, 230 O.C.U. OING "A" Cano S/IDR. SQUADRON **GENTRAL DEPOSITORY** 2 0 AUG 1951 ROYAL AIR FORCE

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