Hendrix, J.C.

Dallas County – Joseph C. Hendrix, Jr - 2nd Lt, serial number – 0-679197; KIA

Enlisted – USAAF 10 April 1942 at Dallas, Married.

Joseph Calvin Hendrix Jr. Birth: Jun. 21, 1920 Birmingham Jefferson County Alabama, USA Death: Mar. 27, 1944 Thorpe Morieux Suffolk, England

2nd LT USAAF WWII ASN O-679197 8th Air Force, 3rd Bombarding Division, 4th Combat Wing, 447th Bomber Group (heavy) and 711 Squadron Bombardier

He was the son of Joseph Calvin Hendrix and Ernestine Eva Emma Zirkelbach Hendrix. He graduated from West End High School 1939, Birmingham, AL.

He crashed on his 40th mission. His B-17G, based at Rattlesden Air Base, crashed over Suffolk, England on 27 Mar 1944 near Green Farm/Scarfe's Ley. His assigned plane was B-17G #42-31088, the 'Heaven Can Wait', however, he was lost with his crew in another plane, B-17G #42-38085 when the plane exploded mid-air shortly after takeoff. An eyewitness reported a flame and smoke coming from the right wing prior to the crash.

Soon after, B-17G #42-31088 'Heaven Can Wait' also crashed shortly after takeoff with the Philip King crew.

The crew members were-1st Lt Wesley G Hudson, Pilot, ASN 0-745896, WA 2nd Lt Willard B Corley, CoPilot, ASN 0-686891, TX 2nd Lt Norman Bishusky, Navigator, ASN O-687807, NJ 2nd Lt Joseph C Hendrix, Jr, Bombardier, ASN 0-679197, TX TSGT John C Cunningham, Jr, Top Turret Gunner, ASN 17010834, KS TSGT Donald N Jungenberg, Radio Operator, ASN 36276798, WI SSGT Charles E Gorman, Ball Turret Gunner, ASN 32503476, NY SSGT James E Penwell, Tail Gunner, ASN 33162827, PA SSGT Leo A St Laurent, Left Waist Gunner, ASN 11043802, RI

SSGT John C Bodenhoffer, Right Waist Gunner, ASN 19081169, CA

Note - Hudson crew members SSGT Edward J Kelly and PVT Burton L Wilson were not on the plane the day it crashed; instead, their replacements were TSGT John C Cunningham and SSGT John C Bodenhoffer.

Family links: Parents: <u>Ernestine Zirkelbach Hendrix (1896 - 1958)</u>