

VETERAN OF THE WEEK 22

(19-25 September, 2022)

J10667 Flying Officer Emile Joseph Francis Dunand

No. 49 Squadron Royal Air Force,

Bomber Command, RCAF

Second World War



(Image courtesy of CVWM & Operation Picture Me Project)

J10667 Flying Officer Emile Joseph Francis Dunand of Val Marie, Saskatchewan was born on the 28th of February 1918 at Frenchville, Saskatchewan to Antoine Marie Dunand and Marie Louise Lebel two Immigrants from France (Marie Louise was from Cantal). F/O Dunand was educated in Val-Marie and worked as a surveyor and irrigation worker prior to enlisting in the RCAF on 12th of May 1941 at Regina. His parents were the General Merchants in the town of Val-Marie. He was one of four Dunand brothers who saw service during the war. Two of his brothers (Marcel & Rodger) served in the Canadian Army and a third Guy served two years with the U.S. Army. His brother Marcel was Killed in Action in September 1944. F/O Dunand served as a wireless operator and air gunner on Lancaster Bomber No. ED 440 which took part in several key operations (raids) during the war including Dusseldorf 27-28 January 1943, Hamburg 30-31 January 1943, and Colonge 2-3 February 1943.

The last raid would end in tragedy for Lancaster ED 440 as Flying Officer Dunand unfortunately was Killed in Action on the 2nd of February 1943 when his Lancaster Bomber was shot down by a night fighter and crashed between Kessel and Helden Limburg, Netherlands. He was 25 years old. Those who were killed in the crash were buried initially near the crash. In addition to F/O Dunand, F/S Hiam Mager of Toronto and four members of the RAF were also killed in the crash. One RAF member survived the crash and was taken prisoner by the Germans. He was reburied in Plot 18 Row D, Grave 5 at Jonkerbos War Cemetery located four kilometers south of Nijmegen, Gelderland Netherlands.

His headstone inscription reads: *“Never shall the one we love from our memory pass away.”* In addition to his military marker in Jonkerbos War Cemetery, F/O Dunand is commemorated on page 155 of the Second World War Book of Remembrance, an honour roll in Val-Marie (alongside his brother Marcel), on the Bomber Command Memorial in Nanton, Alberta, and he has a geo-memorial lake named in his honour called Dunand Lake. Dunand Lake is located east of Black Lake, Saskatchewan. This week we honour the service and sacrifice of J10667 Flying Officer Emile Joseph Francis Dunand of Val-Marie, Saskatchewan, who gave his life for King and Country during the Second World War. Thank You for your service, F/O Dunand.

Lest We Forget



EMILE JOSEPH FRANCIS DUNAND - J10667 Flying Officer (No. 49 Squadron RAF wireless air gunner) Emile Joseph Francis Dunand (b.1918) of Val Marie was KIA 19430202 and is buried at Jonkerbos war cemetery near Nijmegen, Gelderland, Netherlands. Dunand's Lancaster was shot down near Kessel. Emile was born at Frenchville, educated at Val Marie and was working as a surveyor and an irrigation worker before enlisting at Regina in 1941. Brother of MJF Dunand.

(Image courtesy of CVWM & Operation Picture Me Project)