

[Frear, Robert H.]

R. H. Frear Killed in Air Crash

West Palm Beach—A light Army bomber crashed yesterday on Morrison Field, carrying the pilot and five members of the crew to instant death.

Officials announced that the plane, starting a routine flight, crashed immediately after the take-off and burned.

Names of those killed were not immediately made public.

William R. Frear, 1608 Holland, received a telegram from Florida last night that his son, Lieut. Robert H. Frear, had been killed during a routine plane flight, presumably the one at Morrison Field. Other details were not known here.

Lieutenant Frear entered the service in January and [on] Nov. 10 received his second lieutenant's commission in the Army Air Corps. He had been stationed in Cross City, Fla.

He was born in Utica, attended the Utica Free Academy and was graduated from St. Lawrence University in 1939. Before entering service, he was an announcer with WIBX. He was a member of the Church of the Reconciliation [Universalist].

He leaves his father and a brother, William G. Frear, Utica. His mother died after Frear entered the army.

Observer-Dispatch, Utica NY, Sat. 21 Nov 1942

Lieut. Frear Buried With Military Rites

The funeral of Second Lieut. Robert H. Frear, 26, Army Air forces, killed in a routine training flight in Florida last week, was held from Lankton's Funeral Chapel, Steuben Park at 2:15 p.m. yesterday and later at the Church of the Reconciliation [Universalist].

The Rev. A. Lynn Booth officiated. The bearers were Harold Smith, Ernest Riep, Walter Griswold, Cornell Reece, John J. Merns, and Lieut. R. R. Gustafson. A firing squad and bugler from the Rome Air Depot sounded taps. Interment was made in the family plot, Forest Hill Cemetery.

Lieutenant Frear was the son of William R. Frear, 1606 Holland.

Daily Press, Utica NY, Sat. 28 Nov 1942