

Flight Lieutenant Alan Lonsdale Lazenby DFC – Pilot

A solid Northern man and a brilliant pilot, Alan Lazenby was the backbone of the crew. Born in 1915 in Guisborough, North Yorkshire, he was the oldest member of the team, bringing experience and steadiness to every mission. Educated at Prior Pursgrove College, he had a sharp mind and a strong sense of duty. He has studied Art and been awarded a diploma. He married his sweetheart, Mabel, in 1939 in Scarborough, just as the world was on the brink of war. His leadership in the cockpit gave the crew confidence, no matter how dangerous the mission, they knew they were in good hands. Alan fully appreciated the dangers of war, he was under no illusions. His own father, Private Walter Lonsdale Lazenby, had been killed in action during WW1, at Flanders in September 1916, when Alan was just a year old. Alan's father was enlisted in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and buried at the Thiépval Memorial War Grave Cemetery. (Source: Ingrid Shepherd and Dawn Woodward, Co-Authors of "From Bomber County to Berlin".)