

**Edwin John Marshall RAFVR**

**Born:** 1923

**Parents:** Son of Frederick Ewart and Maud Emily Marshall of  
Littlehampton, Sussex

**School Years:** 1936 – 1940 Chichester High School for Boys  
'Martlet' July 1937 – Poem 'the Battle of Hastings'  
Oxford School Certificate December 1940  
Exemption from matriculation University of London - December  
1940  
The Martlet' 'Roll of Service' Sgt Pilot R.A.F. December 1943

**Civilian Occupation:** Grade VI Clerk in the Education Branch at County Hall

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**Armed Forces Record**

**Service Rank:** Sergeant

**Service Number:** 1396439

**Service Record:** 150 Squadron

**Operational Base:** Foggia /Regina - Italy

**Date of Death:** 14 July 1944

**The 'Martlet' 'School Notes' March 1945**

News has been received that E.J. Marshall, a Sergeant-Pilot in the R.A.F., has been reported missing from operations in Italy. To his brother D.Marshall, a Sub-Lt in the Royal Navy, the sole survivor of the family, we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

### Translation from Italian

On the night between 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> July 1944, RAF 205 Group sent 74 twin-engine bombers including Wellingtons, 7 Liberators of SAAF Wing and 8 Halifaxes 614 Squadron 'Pathfinders' to bomb the Lambrate/Milan railway marshalling yards. The aircraft belonged to Squadrons 150, 142, 70 and 37 who took off from bases located in the Foggia/Regina region of Southern Italy and arrived at Milan at 11.20pm at an altitude of 1,800 metres.



*Wellington Mk I bomber*

The night raid was hampered by bad weather and anti-aircraft artillery. Bombs were scattered over a large area; there was serious damage to the freight yard but lower than estimated. The flight back to base was a real Odyssey for the British crews. Six aircraft did not return. Two were brought down by anti-aircraft fire and there were two in-flight collisions.

**Wellington LN806 of 37 squadron involved in an in-flight collision with Wellington LN792 of 150 Squadron, crew:-**

***Old Boy* Sgt E.J Marshall – RAF**

**Sgt. P. Gaffney RAF**

**Sgt F. Hellier RAF**

**Sgt J.A. Macklin RAF**

**Sgt R.G. Gorick RAF**

**A total of eleven crew members from both aircraft lost their lives in the fall of the bombers. They were rushed to Pizzighettone and San Bassona Cremonese following the collision but were later laid to rest at the CWGC Cemetery, Milan War Cemetery, Via Cascina Bellaria s.a. 20153 Milano. Lombardia. Edwin John Marshall was 21.**

**N.B**

**On the same return flight, two other Wellingtons also collided. The pilots and navigators were lost but the other airmen escaped by parachute and were taken prisoner of war.**

**Commemorated**

**Chichester High School for Boys**

**Chichester War Memorial**