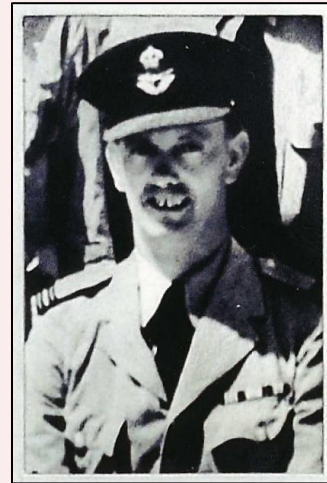


FLIGHT LIEUTENANT GEORGE WILLIAM NICKERSON MM

Service Number: 100738
 Enlisted: Royal Air Force
 Born: 10th March 1899
 Died: 31st July 1943, Aged 44
 Memorials: Montgomery Oakwood Cemetery Annex,
 Alabama, USA – Plot N, Lot 94, Grave 3
 Burbage War Memorial
 St Catherine's Church Memorial
 Burbage Liberal Club Memorial



George William Nickerson was born on 10th March 1899, the second son of William and Mary Nickerson. The birth was registered in Nottingham and by the time of the 1901 Census they were living at 24 Charles Street, Little Gonerby, Grantham where his father was employed as a Tailor. By the time of the 1911 Census the family had relocated to 57 Elmville Avenue, Scarborough where his father, William, continued his trade as a Tailor.

George would have been eligible for conscription on turning eighteen years in March 1917 and a Medal Card exists for Private George William Nickerson in the Lincolnshire Regiment for the Victory and British Medals from World War

One, but not the 1914 – 15 Star for which George would have been too young.

During his World War One service George was also awarded the Military Medal.

George is promoted to Sergeant and becomes Unit Accountant from July 1919 up to leaving the Army in June 1920.

8 17 5 - W 6955 - GD 1389 5,000,000 10/16 HWV(P269) Army Form Z. 18.

CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT DURING THE WAR.
 (To be completed for, and handed to, each soldier).
 A soldier is advised to send a copy rather than the original when corresponding with a prospective employer.
 It is particularly important that an apprentice whose apprenticeship has been interrupted by Military Service should have recorded on this form any employment in a trade similar to his own on which he has been engaged during such Military Service.

Regtl. No. 51917 Rank Serjt.
 Surname NICKERSON
 Christian Names in full George William
 Regt. Lincolnshire Unit Depot.

1. Regimental Employment.

Nature of.	Period.
(a) <u>Company Serjt.</u>	From <u>Feb 1919</u> To <u>May 1919</u>
(b) " "	" "
(c) <u>Unit Accountant</u>	<u>from July 1919 to date</u>
(d) " "	" "

***2. Trade or calling before Enlistment (as shown in A. B. 64).**
Clerk.

3. Courses of Instruction and Courses in Active Service Army Schools, and certificates, if any.

(a)	<u>Army Accounts</u>
(b)	<u>London School of Economics</u>
(c)	<u>Kingway H.C.</u>
(d)	<u>May 1919</u>

* The trade or calling must be filled in by the O.C. Unit from the Appendix to Special Army Order No. 6, of 21st October, 1918 (328 of November, 1918). [P.T.O.]

4. Military qualifications as shown in A. B. 64.
1st Bombardier, 4th Military Regiment

5. Special Remarks as to qualifications, work done, or skill acquired during service with the Colours. This is required as a help in finding civil employment.

No Engr. Sgt. Charles Keeton, was two months under my personal supervision since Feb 1920 being employed as Accountant Sergeant, during this period have found him, a very neat, bold, & conscientious worker.

Carman Embroider
44.6.20 Cont.

Soldier's Signature (For identification purposes) George William Nickerson
 Signed Embroider (Rank)
Station Accountant Officer
4th North Midland Area
 Commanding Station (Unit)

NOTES.— The object of this certificate is to assist the soldier in obtaining employment on his return to civil life. The form will be completed as soon as possible in accordance with Demobilization Regulations.

As soon as signed and completed it will be given to the soldier concerned and will remain his property. He should receive it as early as is compatible with making the necessary references in order that he can either send it home or keep it in his possession.

One form will be issued to each man, and no duplicate can ever be issued.

On 30th July 1921 George married Florence Mary Morris at Grantham and they went to live with his wife's parents at 19 Oxford Street, Grantham. They have a son Clifford Noel W Nickerson on 5th July 1924 and the birth is registered in Grimsby.

By the 1939 Census, the family are resident at "Emoclew", Lychgate Lane, Burbage and George is employed as an Assistant Accountant with Hinckley Urban District Council and is also a member of the Home Guard.

In World War Two, George joins the Royal Air Force and on 1st August 1941 The London Gazette confirms his promotion to "Acting Pilot Officer on Probation".

4450	THE LONDON GAZETTE, 1 AUGUST, 1941	
William Stanley HARDING (100729).		Corporals.
James Morton HYSLOP (100730).		13th June 1941.
Thomas Hendy MARSDEN (100731).		(Seniority 12th May 1941.)
James Albert Newlyn McEWAN (100732).	1305994	Charles KILLEEN (100791).
Ronald Fife MILLER (100733).		14th July 1941.
William Frederic MILLER (100734).		(Seniority 18th June 1941.)
Henry Gustavus Hamilton MONCK (100735).	1266826	Oliver Cecil Francis CAREY (100792).
Thomas Leigh MUIR (100736).		Leading Aircraftman.
James Augustine MURRAY (100737).		11th July 1941.
George William NICKERSON, M.M. (100738).		(Seniority 12th June 1941.)

George is then promoted to "Pilot Officer on Probation" as published in The London Gazette of 5th September 1941.

After six months service he is drafted to the British Flying Training School in Florida, USA. Where he serves as Administrative Officer and rises to the rank of Flight Lieutenant.



FLIGHT LIEUT. G. W. NICKERSON
R.A.F. Administrative Officer

No 5 B.F.T.S.
Royal Air Force

RIDDLE - McKAY
Aero College. Clewiston, Fla.

Au Revoir, America
We'll Be Seeing You!

TO OUR INSTRUCTORS
For the time you spent
The trouble you took
The good advice you poured on heedless ears
For the effort you spared
For the patience you showed
Endless patience when you must have wanted to scream
For sticking your neck out
For getting us out of trouble
For standing up for us when the boot was due
For sweating in the heat of the day
For shivering on the flare path, each freezing night
For the many hours you gave to make us each a pilot

OUR THANKS
Your work was not in vain
Britain Has More Silver Wings

In 1943, George develops a malignant lung condition and dies suddenly on 31 July 1943 and is buried in Montgomery (Oakwood) Cemetery Annex, Alabama, USA.



History Information

Montgomery (Oakwood) Cemetery Annexe contains 78 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, all airmen who died while training in Alabama under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. There are also 20 French war graves in the cemetery and two non-war burials.

Located in the Oakwood Cemetery Annex, there is a plaque that signifies the burials of 78 officers and men of the British Royal Air Force and a granite cross among the graves. The monument was erected to honour the RAF officers and men whom lost their lives while training during World War II in Montgomery, Alabama.

BURBAGE MEMORIAL SERVICE TO F/LT. G. W. NICKERSON

A memorial service was held on Sunday last at St. Catherine's Church, Burbage, in remembrance of F.-Lt. G. W. Nickerson, M.M., who died in the General Hospital at Atlanta City, U.S.A. Ft.-Lt. Nickerson was well known in the district and was formerly in Mr. T. Flayell's office and later with the Hinckley Urban District Council as Rates Clerk.

He was one of the first to join up in the L.D.V., which later became the Home Guard. He was with No. 1 Platoon as second officer and later became O.C. H.Q. Platoon, being very respected in both.

He joined the R.A.F.V.R. about two years ago and after six months in this country was drafted to a training school in Florida, U.S.A., where he was on the Administrative Staff.

The service was conducted by the Rev. R. D. H. Pughe and was attended by Mrs. G. W. Nickerson and his only son, Clifford, who is training as an officer in the R.A.F., and many relatives and friends. The Burbage (No. 1) Platoon Home Guard paraded under Lt. A. Harding and the H.Q. Company under Lt. Whitmore. "A" (Hinckley) Company was also represented by Capt. E. St. J. Makin and C.S.M. Sale. The British Legion, of which he was at one time the Secretary, was also represented and many of his workmates from the Hinckley Urban District Council office. Prayers were said and the Rector paid high tribute to his memory.





Front row – 4th from left - Flight Lieutenant George William Nickerson