

SUGGITT, S/L William Reid (J/15131), RCAF, DFC [squadron leader]

Born in Toronto, 1920

son of Thomas and Grace Reid Suggitt, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Home in Toronto

Enlisted in Toronto 15 October 1940

Trained at No.1 ITS, graduated 14 December 1940

No.10 EFTS, graduated 7 February 1941

No.5 SFTS, graduated 7 April 1941

Commissioned 1942

Posted to #428 Squadron, RCAF. Date?

12/13 March 1943

P/O R. Buckham, Sgt K. Knapp, F/Lt W. Suggitt, F/Lt D. Morgan, Sgt K. Fry, W/O1 A. Harrison, Sgt L. Williamson, P/O R. Tighe, Sgt R. Parkinson, Sgt W. Pepper, and Sgt J. Martyn landed at Leeming on return.

14/15 April 1943

S/Ldr W. Suggitt was hit by flak, there were holes in the fuselage.

Distinguished Flying Cross - No.428 Squadron

Award effective 1 July 1943 as per London Gazette dated 9 July 1943 and AFRO 1724/43 dated 27 August 1943

DFC citation:

This officer has a fine operational record which has included sorties to all the most heavily defended centres in Germany and enemy occupied territory. He has recently taken part in raids on the Ruhr Valley including Essen and Duisburg and on the U-Boat bases of North-West Germany and France. Despite intense anti-aircraft opposition, even when the bomber has been hit by shrapnel from very close shell bursts, he has always pressed home his attacks with the utmost determination. He is an ideal operational captain whose example has been an inspiration to all other pilots in the squadron.

August 1943

Signed #428 Squadron RCAF Pilot's Flying Log Book, C. G. Ford

Posted to #617 Squadron, Dam Busters. Date?

Date: 12 February 1944 Aircraft Type & Number: Lancaster Mark I (DV382) KC-J  
Up: 2133h (Base, 12Feb44)  
Operation: bombing raid, Antheor Viaduct  
Down: 0504h (RAF Ford, 13Feb44)  
Date: 13 February 1944 Aircraft Type & Number: Lancaster Mark I (DV382) KC-J  
Transit flight from Ford to Base  
Crashed 0830 hours 13.2.1944 Waltham Down,Sussex, all crew killed  
Date of death: 15 February 1944  
Place of death: St. Richard's Hospital,Chichester,Sussex  
Gravesite: Chichester Cemetery, Sussex Square 159 C.of E. Plot Grave 2

DFC award presented to next-of-kin, 12 December 1944.

Wartime Roll of Honour:

NWT Toponyms

Lake: Suggitt Lake Unique Key: LAXAK Latitude (ddmmss): 603800

References:

1. RCAF Pilot's Flying Log Book  
F/L C. G. Ford, DFC
2. Dam Busters  
[http://www.dambusters.org.uk/Lost\\_In\\_Action.html](http://www.dambusters.org.uk/Lost_In_Action.html)
3. Dam Busters Record Book (p.124)  
<http://www.dambusters.org.uk/docs/recordbook.pdf>
4. Air Force Association  
<http://airforce.ca/uploads/airforce/2009/07/ALPHA-SU.html>
5. Wartime Roll of Honour, NWT Toponyms  
[http://www.pwnhc.ca/programs/commemorative\\_names/lists/NWT\\_Commemorative\\_Tonyms\\_Alpha.pdf](http://www.pwnhc.ca/programs/commemorative_names/lists/NWT_Commemorative_Tonyms_Alpha.pdf)
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