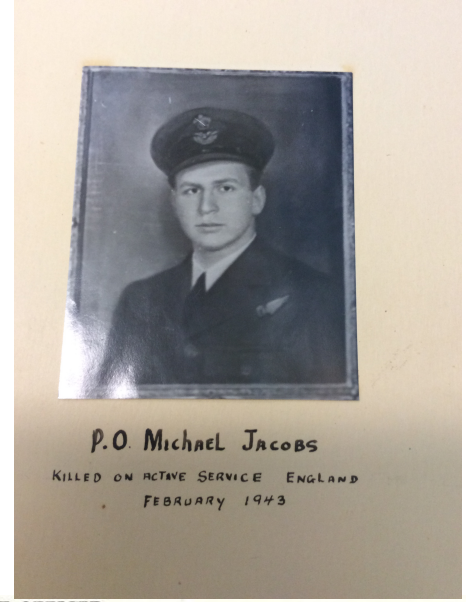


# Pilot Officer Michael Stein Jacobs

1919-1943

Michael Stein Jacobs was born on November 17, 1919 in Westmount, Quebec. He attended Westmount High School in 1935. Officer Jacobs attended Yale University and enlisted while studying there in 1940. He was a pilot officer in the Second World War, member of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). A pilot officer would fly planes and take part in battles. Officer Jacobs had taken part in 30 different battles and he was part of the famous 'Moose' squadron. This squadron had engaged in 52 battles and was the most famous RCAF squadron. Officer Jacobs' most notable battle was in the 1000 plane raid on Cologne in the spring of 1942. In the picture on the right you can see a letter he wrote home just after the 1000 plane raid. His parents were very important in the Jewish community. His father, Samuel Jacobs, was just the second Jewish person to be part of the Canadian government. He was also the first president of the Canadian Jewish Congress and had an book written about him. His mother, Amy Jacobs, was a member of the Dominion Council of the Canadian Jewish Congress and leader of the National Council of Jewish Women in Canada. P.O Jacobs' wife, Sarah Westheimer, married him in 1941. Officer Jacobs passed away in England on February 13, 1943. He was killed during an unknown battle along with 24 other RCAF members. He is buried in the Stratford-on-Avon cemetery in Warwickshire England, and was commemorated on page 174 in the Second World War book of remembrance.



## PILOT OFFICER MICHAEL STEIN JACOBS

PILOT OFFICER MICHAEL STEIN JACOBS, J-16184, R.C.A.F., of Montreal, was reported killed on active service R.C.A.F. Casualty List No. 503) on February 19, 1943. He was buried at Stratford-on-Avon. Major S. Gershon Levi, M.B.E., senior Jewish chaplain, officiated over the rites.

Pilot Officer Jacobs enlisted in the air force in September, 1940. He received his observer's wing and sergeant's stripes at Uplands and was promoted to flight sergeant in March, 1941. Pilot Officer Jacobs was posted overseas in September and participated in the 1000-plane raid on Cologne in the spring of 1942. After this raid Pilot Officer Jacobs wrote home (*Hebrew Journal*, Toronto, Feb. 23, 1943):

"After the raid was over and we were heading homewards, plane followed plane so closely that it was all the pilots could do to keep from bumping into one another.

"Over the target we weren't worried about the defenses so much as bumping into other aircraft. Everywhere you looked there were planes. It seemed like one big formation.

"This was the conversation over the 'intercom', especially from the rear gunner: 'Hello, captain, two Wellingtons on the starboard, one Halifax just above, and I think there's a Sterling just behind'.

"On the way back British flyers commented on the number of their own planes which they had seen, and a rear gunner remarked:

"Yeah, I saw a traffic cop just over the Dutch coast, and he was shouting and waving, 'This way!'"

A member of the famous "Moose" squadron, with more than 30 raids over enemy territory to his credit, Pilot Officer Jacobs had just been commissioned when he was reported killed.

Born in Montreal, he was the son of Mrs. S. W. Jacobs of 334 Cote St. Antoine Road, member of the Dominion Council of the Canadian Jewish Congress and leader of the National Council of Jewish Women in Canada, and the late S. W. Jacobs, K.C., M.P., the first president of the Canadian Jewish Congress and the second Jew to sit in the Commons at Ottawa. Pilot Officer Jacobs attended Westmount High School and was studying at Yale University at the time of his enlistment. While in the service he married the former Miss Sara H. Westheimer of Baltimore, Md., on July 23, 1941.



Michael Jacobs

By: Justin Terk

1945		
WEST	MIDDLE	EAST
FO Jackson, George Frederick	OSig Jasper, Lawrence Cyril	RCNVR
PO Jackson, Henry Alfred	Cpl Jay, John Frederick	RCASAC
FL Jackson, Lloyd Thomas	Supt Jaceck, Richard George	RCNVR
FL Jackson, Ralph Henry Burgess		RCNVR
WO1 Jackson, Ross Banting	Art Jean, Robert Joseph	RCNVR
WO1 Jackson, Stephen	Plum Jeanette, Paul Winstanley	RCNVR
WO1 Jackson, William Albert	Plum Jeffery, Sigalion Charles	RCNVR
WO1 Jacob, Jack Morton	Plum Jeffrey, Charles Ross	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobs, Alan Laune	Plum Jenkins, Alfred Gordon	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobs, George William	Plum Jenkins, Finley	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobs, Michael Stein	WO1 Jenkins, Francis Surrag	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobs, Robert George	WO1 Jenkins, Franklin Elwood	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobs, William Harvey	WO1 Jenner, John Irving	RCNVR
WO1 Jacobsen, Harold Thomas	WO1 Jennings, Ivor Derrick	RCNVR
WO1 Jacques, George William	WO1 Jennings, Martin James	RCNVR
	WO1 Jennings, Roland Warren	RCNVR
	WO1 Jenks, Jacob	RCNVR
	WO1 Jerome, John Orville	RCNVR
	WO1 Jessiman, George Herkis	RCNVR
	WO1 Jessup, Ralph Campbell	RCNVR
	WO1 Jesty, Raymond George	RCNVR
	WO1 Jetté, Joseph Charles Etienne	RCNVR
		RCNVR
	WO1 Jette, Omer	RCNVR
	WO1 Jewell, Victor John	RCNVR
	WO1 Jewer, James Wheeler	RCNVR
	WO1 Jewiss, Edmund Alfred	RCNVR
		RCNVR
	WO1 Jilly, Ewald	RCNVR
	WO1 Jinks, Leslie	RCNVR
	WO1 Jinnin, Herman William	RCNVR
		RCNVR
	SgtSecr Joannette, Joseph Hector	RCNVR
		RCNVR
	WO1 Jones, Frank	RCNVR
	WO1 Jobin, Marcel Leo	RCNVR
	WO1 Jordan, George Earl	RCNVR
	WO1 Johann, Madelon	RCNVR
	WO1 Johannsson, Gudmundur	RCNVR
		RCNVR
	WO1 John, Merlin Lindsay	RCNVR
	WO1 Johns, Kenneth William	RCNVR
	WO1 Johns, Roy Ernest	RCNVR
	WO1 Johnson, Addison Joseph	RCNVR
	WO1 Johnson, Ben Arvid	RCNVR
	WO1 Johnson, Carl John	RCNVR
		RCNVR



Sources: Veterans Affairs Canada, <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2714951?Michael%20Stein%20Jacobs>. Commonwealth War Graves Commission, <http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2714951/JACOBS>.

