

113924 John Anthony 'David' Hughes Rees DFM

From Newport, Mon.

Joined 609 (West Riding) Squadron 18th September 1940 at Middle Wallop as a Sergeant pilot. On 25th September his engine failed and he crash landed at Glastonbury in Supermarine Spitfire L1008. On 8th July 1941 he was shot down in combat with Bf109's and baled out of Supermarine Spitfire PR-N W3239. He was rescued, slightly wounded, by Air Sea Rescue off the Goodwin Sands at 06:30hrs. In August 1941 his award of the Distinguished Flying Medal was announced in the London Gazette. He returned to 609 in November, and was Commissioned in December. In March 1942 he was posted to 73 OTU at Abu Sueir in Egypt as a Flying Instructor. He was promoted as a Flying Officer in October 1942. John Hughes-Rees contracted Poliomyelitis and died on 30th April 1943, aged 22 years. He is recorded as having 4 and 1 shared destroyed, 1 probably destroyed and 1 damaged.

15th September 1940 Bf110 destroyed in Spitfire MKI off Portishead Point

7th October 1940 Bf109E destroyed in Spitfire MKI Portland - Yeovil

8th May 1941 ½ Bf109 destroyed in Spitfire MKIIA off Calais

21st May BF109 damaged in Spitfire MKIIA off Deal

30th June Bf109 destroyed Spitfire MKVB Northwest off St Omer

8th July Bf109 destroyed Spitfire MKVB PR-N W3239 West of Lens

8th July Bf109 probably destroyed Spitfire MKVB PR-N W3239 West of Lens