



**David Geddes put this on Facebook on 24 September 2022:**

It was 80 years ago tonight, that Lancaster R5679 of 61 Squadron took off to drop sea mines over the German navy sea lanes to the east of Kiel. They achieved this but were intercepted by radar, that the RAF had been advised of in 250 pages of data sent by the Danish Resistance. None the less the mission was sent, incomprehensively, directly over the radar defences and within 7 km of the main nightfighter base at Karup Grove - both on the outward navigational leg and exactly the same course on the return leg. The bomber with my uncle piloting was intercepted near Randers and finally shot down after a furious air battle with the starboard fuel tanks burning near Gronhoj. I have met the eye witnesses from 1942 of that air battle. The family were never advised as to where Lewis Morrison was lost, or his crew. In 2013 I was able to travel to Gronhoj for a commemoration of the event, the unveiling of a fine memorial stone to all the crew, the inauguration of a small museum in their memory, a fly past by the Danish Airforce, and a parade of the National Guard of Denmark with over 50 flags flying. In 2015 I returned with mroe family and Bill Emerslund and his son Gordon. Bill's uncle , also Bill, had been the mid upper gunner. All the crew were killed when the bomber exploded during an otherwise successful crash landing. On both occasions we laid flowers and wreaths at Frederikshavn where they are all interred. The loss of Lewis deeply marked my grandparents and my mother for the rest of their lives. My own son Lewis, and a number of his cousins and uncles carry the same name. I enjoy a deeply significant relationship with the Danish researchers, and with a number of the

descendants of the crew. Lewis Morrison had graduated with a 1st class honours in Physics and Maths, an ability my son has inherited. His first degree was a Masters degree with Distinction in the same subjects. In some lights they even look alike. My mother was very moved when we named our Lewis after her Lewis. I remember tonight in particular with the Emerslund family in Vancouver who lost two cousins in little more than a week, when the HMCS Ottawa was torpedoed and R5679 was shot down.