



Pilot Officer Hayden Selby RAWSON

[1919 – 1945]



Name: Hayden Selby **RAWSON**

Rank: Pilot Officer

Service Number: 406954 (Pilot Officer) / 300549 (Warrant Officer)

Unit: RAAF Reserve (Civil Aircrew)

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Born: 19 September 1919; Nottingham, England

Enlisted: 26 May 1941; Perth W.A.

Date of Death: 13 November 1945 (aged 26 years)

Place of Death: Leyte, Philippines

Cause of Death: Accidental

Buried / Commemorated: Sai Wan War Cemetery, Hong Kong [grave I.D.9]
Australian War Memorial [panel 134]

Next of Kin: Son of Ernest Henry and Violet Elaine Rawson of Victoria Park, W.A.
Husband of Constance Viva Rawson of Cardwell, Qld.

We thank the History Interest Group and other volunteers who have researched and prepared these Notes. The series will be progressively expanded and developed. They are intended as casual reading for the benefit of Members, who are encouraged to advise of any inaccuracies in the material.

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In Civilian Life:

At enlistment, lived at Perth W.A.

Migrated on "Mooltan" to Australia with his parents to Perth in 1923 (aged 4).

Military Service:

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| January 1943 | 2 Air Navigation School, Mount Gambier; 406945 Pilot Officer H.S. Rawson "posted to 1 Embarkation Depot for termination of appointment" |
| April 1943 | Discharged; Pilot Officer; 1 Embarkation Depot enlisted RAAF Reserve; Warrant Officer; Pilot |

Circumstances of Death:

Pilot Officer Rawson lost his life while piloting an Australian National Airlines transport aircraft Dakota C-49A VH-CDC 1 mile after take-off from Tacloban, Leyte Gulf in bad weather. There were 17 on board, 1 survived.

Sources included:

- Australian War Memorial
- National Archives of Australia
- Sundry web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports and sundry documents