



Doug Glading

30/6/2026

Last Update 3/8/2026

4. The Story of John Weldon Butt

Flying Officer John ('Johnny') Weldon Butt, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, crashed a Spitfire whilst training in 1941.

Reports say he never really recovered from this.

BUTT.—In Sept., 1942, FLYING OFFICER JOHN WELDON BUTT, R.A.F. ("JOHNNY"), beloved only son of Lieut.-Col. A. C. Butt, R.M., and Mrs. Butt, Sarandi, Fareham, Hants, aged 19. **28.9.1942**

He died at Home Field, Dipford Farm Trull, Taunton on 18/9/1942 age just 19.

The circumstances are best described by press reports, eg *Portsmouth Evening News* - Tuesday 22 September 1942

Found Shot on Wedding Day.

A few hours before he was to have been married, Pilot Officer (sic) John Weldon Butt, only son of Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. A. C. Butt, of Fareham, was found shot dead on Saturday in a field near the church where he was to have been married, after a four days' engagement, to Miss Penelope Mary Evans, of Trull, Somerset.

A sporting gun was by his side, and at an inquest at Taunton, yesterday, Pilot Officer Butt's father said that his son had had a crash 15 months ago, while on a practice flight in a Spitfire. This had caused him to have periodic "black-outs."



He had had one of the black-out attacks a few days previously. On these occasions he would lose his sight for 30 seconds or a minute.

He is buried in Fareham Cemetery.

Catisfield connection:

The Butt family lived at 'Savandi' (or Sarandi) on the Avenue.

John's father Lt. Colonel Ashworth Clegg But, Royal Marines, (1881-1968) was involved with St Columba, Catisfield, and was one of the original fundraisers for the first Catisfield Memorial Hall.

