

Blunt, Allan Read
Private
Canadian Army Corps
of Military Staff Clerks
D/129577



Private Blunt was born in Montreal, Quebec on the 14th of October 1920. He was raised by his adoptive parents, Herbert A. and Irene Blunt on a grain and dairy farm near Knowlton, Quebec (currently part of Town of Brome Lake) in the Eastern Townships, approximately 100 kms south east of Montreal.

Private Blunt was a well-regarded student who performed well in school and partook in a wide variety of student activities. He enjoyed sports, excelling in track & field, football, baseball and basketball. He graduated from Knowlton High School in 1939 earning junior matriculation in Algebra, Geometry and Chemistry.

Life on the farm was busy – particularly given that his farm was not mechanized – where everything needed to be done with horses or by hand. When not working on the farm, Private Blunt pursued his hobbies of music and philately. In his youth, he earned University of McGill Conservatorium of Music certificates for piano and organ. Allan was raised within the United Church of Canada faith and his faith played an important role in his life.

Allan inherited a share of the farm and after high school he ran his farm operation. With the war underway, he worked briefly as a Materials Inspector for the Inspection Board of UK & Canada before enlisting in the Canadian Army Reserves on the 4th of December 1941. He was assigned to complete his basic training at Basic Training Center No. 41 in Huntingdon, Quebec.

Private Blunt was taken on active service in Farnham Quebec on enlistment with the Royal Canadian Engineers (RCE) on the 10th of February 1942. Later that month he was transferred to the Petawawa, Ontario as a member of the 3rd Battalion, RCE. He qualified as a Clerk group "C" by April 1942. On the 18th of May 1942, Private Blunt embarked overseas, arriving in the U.K. on the 26th of May 1942.

The autumn of 1942 entailed further training and in late October 1942, he was assigned to the Engineers Reserve Unit (ERU). Training continued in England throughout 1943 where he was briefly assigned to HQ, 2nd Canadian Corps at the end of that year. In March 1944, Private Blunt was taken on strength by HQ, 1st Canadian Army. He embarked for France on the 23rd July 1944 and arrived two days later.

Private Blunt remained as a member of HQ, 1st Canadian Army from then through the rest of the war as it pursued the enemy through northeastern France, Antwerp, the Scheldt, the Rhineland and the liberation of the Netherlands. He ended his war posted to the HQ of 1st Canadian Army in the Netherlands.

On the 28th of June 1945, Private Blunt died by suicide whilst in the service of his grateful nation. He was 24 years old.

He was survived by brother Charles Vincent ("Charley") and sister Joyce.

Private Blunt was buried at the Canadian temporary military burial ground in Nijmegen, Netherlands and his remains were moved to their permanent resting place in Groesbeek in October 1946.

Private Blunt is buried at the Canadian War Cemetery at Groesbeek, Netherlands in burial plot **II. A. 16.**

He is memorialized with the words: "Ever Remembered by His Friends".

Awards: 1939-45 Star, France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, C.V.S.M. & Clasp.



Life story Richard Russell, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources:

Commonwealth Graves Commission

Library and Archives

"Yesterdays of Brome County, Vol. 6" , Darrah, Phelps, Smith, Brown, Stairs, Walter, 1967

Wikipedia

www.Canadiansoldiers.com



