

Cameron, Oswald Edmond
Rifleman
Regina Rifle Regiment
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
B/117099



Oswald Edmond, also known as 'Ossie', was born on September 25, 1914 in Ottawa, Ontario. His parents were Canadian and raised him as a Catholic. Oswald grew up with one older brother and two younger ones; he had three younger sisters. The family moved to Toronto when Oswald was five years old. He went to school until he was thirteen and he would have liked to continue learning but thought he should go out to work in order to help his parents.



He had several jobs in which a vehicle was always involved. Before he went into military service he drove a milk truck, selling milk along the houses. He was very sportief and played ice hockey, lacrosse and basketball.

When he was nineteen years old, he married Madeleine Marie Querin on November 28, 1933 and they continued to live in Toronto. Two children were born: daughter Carolyn was born November 25, 1938 and son Kenneth Vincent on December 8, 1942.

Oswald always carried this photo of his children with him.



Oswald on leave with his family.

Oswald enlisted on 24 September, 1943 when he was twenty-eight years old. His personal file states that he was an optimistic, energetic and cheerful man. He had a good appearance and was very polite. He was trained in Petawawa Camp, Ontario.

When he went into the army he said he would like to learn to drive an army truck or ride a motorcycle and in due course he obtained a truck driver's license and a mechanic's diploma.

Two of his brothers were already serving in Europe with the Canadian army when Oswald joined up. On August 4, 1944 he made the crossing from Canada to England where he arrived on August 10; he was placed with the Regina Rifle Regiment as a rifleman, On October 17 the regiment crossed to Belgium, arriving the next day.

**ONE OF 4 SONS IN FORCES
CPL. O. E. CAMERON KILLED**

O. E. Cameron, W. E. Cameron, H. O. Cameron, K. A. Cameron

One of the four sons of Mrs. Augusta Cameron, Sutherland Drive, to serve overseas, Cpl. Oswald Edmund (Ossie) Cameron, 32, of the Regina Rifles, was killed in action on the western front, his widow, who also lives on Sutherland Drive, has been informed. He leaves two small daughters, Carolyn, 6, and Jennie, 2. One brother, Sergt. W. E. Cameron, enlisted in the first week of war, served overseas over three years in the R.C.A. and was honorably discharged after he was wounded. Despite loss of an eye and shell shock, he joined the merchant marine. Two other brothers, Sergt. K. A. Cameron, with an anti-tank regiment, and Gnr. H. A. Cameron, with an anti-aircraft unit, are serving in Italy.

Capt. Oswald Cameron enlisted in September, 1943, and went overseas in October, 1944. Born in Ottawa, he came to Toronto as a boy and attended St. Helen's school. He was employed at Downing's Dairy before enlisting. Also surviving are three sisters, Mrs. K. Smith, Mrs. B. Coll, and Miss Dorothy Cameron.

Oswald's daughter Carolyn knew little about her father and his time in the Canadian army until she came into contact with the couple who looked after her father's grave in Groesbeek. In 2017 Carolyn and her family visited the Netherlands and met the man who knew her father. Oswald had been billeted with the Hendricks family in Nijmegen and the then sixteen-year-old son still knew a lot about him.

On February 8, 1945 Oswald left their house in Nijmegen but came by on February 20 to say goodbye because he had to go to Kleve to fight in Operation Veritable. Seven days later, on 27 February, he was killed near Kleve. He was thirty years old.

He was buried on March 7, 1945 in Bedburg Hau, Germany and was reburied on 12 September in the Canadian Military Cemetery, Groesbeek, grave reference **IX. H. 11**.

AWARDS: 1939-1945 Star, de France & Germany Star, de War Medal 1939-1945 en de Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp.



Life story Sylvia Thuis, Research Team Faces To Graves.

Sources:

- thanks to Carolyn Russell
- Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Library and Archives Canada

May 5, 2017, Carolyn Russell finally had the chance to say goodbye to her father, 72 years after his life ended on a German battlefield during the Second World War.



Carolyn together with Mr Hendricks.

