

Keely, Harlan David

Lieutenant

Irish Regiment of Canada

Royal Canadian Infantry Corps



Harlan was born on June 15, 1920 in Toronto as the son of George Mervin Keely and Georgina Keely-Davidson, of Toronto. He was the husband of Joan S. Keely, of Toronto and she married with Mr. Rosenthal after the war.

Harlan was a university student and spoke fluently English and French and he was a member of the United Church of Canada.

He enlists for the Army on August 11, 1942 in Hamilton Ontario. He follows the officers' training in Aldershot, Nova Scotia and is promoted to Lieutenant in Sydney, Nova Scotia on May 21, 1943.

On October 6, 1943, he is added to the Infantry Commander Staff in Vernon, British Columbia. Where on April 9, 1944 his son Harlan David is born at the Vernon Jubilee Hospital.

Then he is embarked to the United Kingdom, where they arrive on 6 September 1944. He then boarded Italy again on November 18, where he stayed until February 20, 1945. He then boarded again and landed in France on 22 February, after which he took part in the fight in North West Europe.

Harlan was killed in action on Monday April 16 1945 at 1300 hours along with the First Nation Pte Maxwell King, who was killed in action too, while on a patrol to clear the Harskamp Barracks near Otterlo of enemy forces the patrol was ambushed.

The remainder of the patrol returned to the lines and reported the incident, then returned in order to clear the area.

Harlan is only 24 years old. He is temporarily buried in Otterlo and reburied on 3 October 1945 at the Canadian war cemetery in Groesbeek, grave **XIV. H. 7.**

His Medals were: The 1939-45 Star; The Italy Star; The War Medal; The CVSM & Clasp

On his tombstone it says:

The Lord is my shepherd



Life story Edwin van der Wolf, voor Faces To Graves.

Bronnen:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission
Library and Archives Canada
Foto Canadian Virtual War Memorial



In memory of their son, his parents had these stained glass windows installed in the Forest Hill United Church in Toronto.