

Masson Luciën Joseph
Lance Corporal
Les Fusiliers Mont-Royal
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
B 155695



Luciën Masson was born on May 11, 1918 in St. Bruno de Guigues (North Tamiskaming), Quebec. He was the son of Henri Matheu Masson and Marie Emma Eugenie Denomme. He was the eldest of a set of twins and had a total of 10 siblings, 5 brothers and 5 sisters. From oldest to youngest sibling: Jeanne, Tom, Annette, Maurice, Philip, Noëlla, Julie, Luciën and Marcel, Laurette, Michael.



Mac - Marcel - Luciën - Maurice - Phil - Tom Masson. Front row Noel Nepken.

Quebec lies in the French speaking district of Canada, so Luciën speaks French and English. The family is Roman Catholic. From ages 7 to 14 Luciën went to the Attend School in Callender. His sport was basketball and he was a member of a archery club.

He worked in a sawmill for 8 years, after which he worked at the Power Plant in Nobel, Ontario, where ammunition was processed, for another 16 months.

On March 12, 1942 Luciën signed up for the Scottish Fusiliers in the North Bay Parry Sound District Ontario. His twin brother Marcel wanted to sign up too, but he was rejected because of his bad eyesight.

In the service files it is mentioned that Luciën had brown hair, brown eyes and a dark skin. Also it is mentioned that Luciën appears to be enthusiastic about overseas missions.

His older brother Philip also signed up for the Canadian army and has fought in Western Europe and the Netherlands in World War 2, just like Luciën did.



Luciën and Philip in the Army.

Luciën started his 2,5 year training and travelled through Camp Borden, Allanburg and Toronto, Camp Niagara to England to prepare for the crossing to the Western-European mainland. On the 8th of October 1944 he left England for France.

He travelled through Belgium to the Netherlands, where he took part in Operation Veritable, which started on February 8, 1945. Luciën was killed in action on March 3rd, 1945 during the fight over the Rijnland called Operation Blockbuster in the Reichswald.

Luciën Masson was temporarily burried at a Canadian emergency cemetary in Bedburg, Germany. On September 6, 1945 Luciën was reburied at the Canadian War Cemetery in Groesbeek, the Netherlands, Grave reference **VII. G. 16.**

Inscription headstone:

Beloved son
of Henri & Eugenie Masson
Callander – Ontario,
May he rest in peace.

Luciën recieved several military medals of honor after his passing:

- The Silver Star, awarded for sacrificing his life for his country.
- The 1939 to 1945 Star, awarded for 6 months of active service.
- The France and Germany Star, awarded for 1 day or more of active service in France and Germany between D-Day and the 8th of May, 1945.
- The Volunteer Service Medal, awarded to volunteers. The medal shows that Luciën was in active service as a volunteer for 18 months.
- The Service Medal, awarded to men that served full time for at least 28 days.



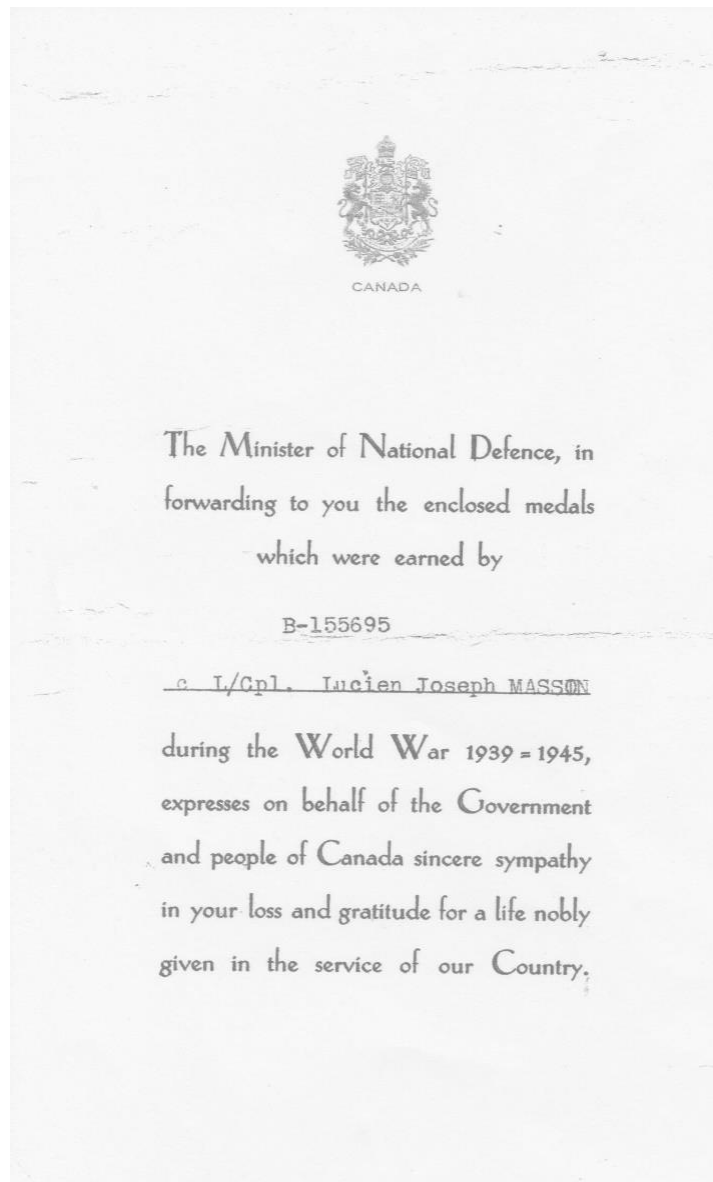


FACES TO GRAVES

Stichting Faces to Canadian
War Graves Groesbeek

Life story Marian Straatman and Fred Hulsman, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Source:
Commonwealth War Graves Commission
Library and Archives Canada
Heather Masson Busch



At the 20th of September 2017 Heather Masson Busch and Michael Masson and their Partners are coming to The Canadian War Cemetery in Groesbeek to visit the Grave of their Uncle Luciën Masson.



From left to right: Diane Michael Heather Rick

Together with Fred (left) and Marian (top 2nd from the right).





Candles Christmas Eve 24 December 2018.
Photo: Diana van Kerkhoven-Venis