

Monaco, Ernest Guiseppe

Private

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada (Princess Louise's)

B160460



Ernst Guiseppe Monaco was born on September 2, 1925 in Coseano in the province of Udine in Italy. He was the son of Luigi and Adella Monaco. The family was Roman Catholic. He was the youngest of four siblings (three boys and one girl). When he was nine years old he moved with his parents and one brother to Port Burwell, Ontario in Canada. At the time his other brothers and sister were already married and remained in Italy. At the age of fifteen he left school. The following two and a half years he worked as a laborer at five different factories. Previous to joining the army he worked as a machine operator at Otis Fensom Elevator in Hamilton, Ontario.

Ernst had a good relationship with his parents. He was very social, had a broad range of interests and was very ambitious. He was single and had no children. He had brown eyes and brown hair, and was 1.80 meters tall, and weighed about 64 kilos.

In 1941 Ernst signed up as a reserve with the Canadian Army. On March 28, 1944 he actually joined the army in Toronto Ontario.

On October 5, 1944 he left by ship to the United Kingdom, where he arrived on October 11, 1944. On November 3, 1944 Ernst left by ship to France.

On February 8, 1945, at the beginning of Operation Veritable, the Canadian First Army entered Germany together with the British Second Army and American Ninth Army.

Ernst belonged to the unit that made up the Canadian First Army. He perished on February 28, 1945 while combating Germans in the area around Kalkar in Germany. On March 2, 1945, after a Christian funeral, he was brought to a temporary grave along the way to Keppeln, four miles south of Kalkar, where he lay alongside other perished Canadian soldiers. The grave was marked with a wooden cross. He only served 338 days (of which 197 days in Canada and 147 in Europe) in the Canadian Army before having perished at the age of nineteen.

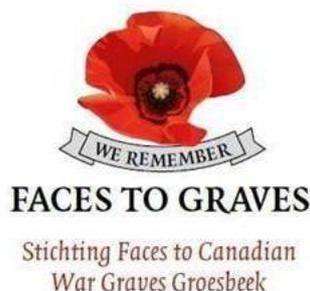
Ernst was reburied on April 15, 1946 at the Canadian Military Cemetery in Groesbeek, plot **XXIV. C. 2.**

On October 15, 1946 Ernst was awarded a posthumous Star 1939-1945, France Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-1945 and the Canadian Volunteer Medal with clasp.

His survivors commemorated him with the inscription:

MORTO PER LA PATRIA. DOLENTI MAMMA, PAPA, SORELLA E FRATELLO.
RIPOSI IN PACE.

Died for country, loved by his mother, father sister and brother. Rest in peace.



Life story: Hans Peters, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources:

- Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC)
- Library and Archives Canada

CANADIAN PACIFIC
HRJ TELEGRAPHS

FILE H.Q. 405-M-45,839

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY)

OTTAWA 11 MARCH 1945

TO:- MRS AIELLA MONACO
BOX 143
PORT BURWELL ONTARIO

63295
REGRET DEEPLY B160460 PRIVATE ERNEST GUISEPPE
MONACO HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION TWENTYEIGHTH
FEBRUARY 1945 STOP YOU SHOULD RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS BY MAIL DIRECT
FROM THE UNIT IN THE THEATRE OF WAR STOP TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO
OUR ENEMIES DO NOT DIVULGE DATE OF CASUALTY OR NAME OF UNIT

PREPAID *Ant*

DIRECTOR OF RECORDS 4