

Stewart, Shirley
Private
Essex Scottish Regiment
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
D/82653



Shirley Stewart was a 26 year old soldier who gave the ultimate sacrifice while fighting overseas during the Second World War.

He was born on February 3rd, 1919 in Smiths Falls, Ontario to his mother Jane Stewart and his father Hugh Stewart. He was never married and had no children. Throughout his life, Shirley was a member of the Church of England. Shirley Stewart completed elementary school when he was 14 years of age. He was employed at Purity Milk Products in Smiths Falls, Ontario from 1934 until 1937. Sometime in his three years of unemployment, Shirley Stewart moved to Montreal, Quebec with his parents. He was unemployed until the time he enlisted for the war on July 17th, 1940 in Montreal, Quebec.

On the day of his enlistment, he is quickly attached to the 1st Battalion of Canada. On August 3rd, 1940, Shirley is moved to the Infantry Training Center (I.T.C.) in Aldershot, Nova Scotia. He left for the United Kingdom in July, 1941. Three years after arriving (between July 22nd and 23rd, 1944), Shirley Stewart embarked from the United Kingdom and arrived in France.

During his time in Europe, he was a part of the Essex Scottish Regiment until his untimely death. His regiment was an important part of the Battle of Normandy, as they performed Operation Atlantic. This battle (which took place between July 18th and 21st, 1944; which Shirley Stewart was not involved in) was a slaughter for the Canadians, as his regiment and

the Black Watch of Canada to take Verrières Ridge. Because of this event, they quickly shipped more Canadians from his regiment to France, which included Shirley Stewart.

His regiment fought through France, Belgium, Holland (Netherlands), and eventually Germany. Shirley Stewart was wounded on March 8th, 1945 in Holland and was rushed to emergency service. He died of his wounds on March 9th, 1945.

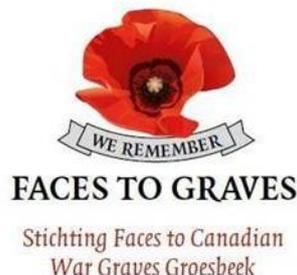
After Shirley Stewart's death, his medals were entitled to his father, Hugh Stewart. He was given Shirley's 1939 to 45 Star (awarded after soldier has given after six months of duty), France-Germany Star (awarded if a soldier had given service in D-Day or the few days following), Defense Metal (awarded between September 3rd, 1939, to May 8th, 1945 for six months of service in Great Britain), War Medal (awarded if a soldier worked full time for 28 days in the armed forces and merchant marines from 1939 to 1945), and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp (awarded to any soldier that volunteered in World War II for eighteen months).

He is buried at Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery located in Nijmegen, Netherlands. Shirley's grave reference **XVI. G. 2.**

Life story: Josh Vincent

If anyone has information about soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice during World War II and are named on the Smiths Falls Cenotaph, please contact Josh Vincent at email address: josh.vincent2@outlook.com.

Any information about the soldiers (such as military records, family member's names, letters they wrote, or pictures) would be greatly appreciated. Please leave your name and your relationship to the soldier when emailing.



Biography made available for Faces To Graves, with courtesy of Josh Vincent.