HONOUR OUR VETERANS

A Guide to Our Commemorative Banners

Index of Veterans - 2020

The Banner Program

The Royal Canadian Legion, General Alexander Ross Branch #77 is proud to bring the Honour Our Veterans banner project to Yorkton. It is hoped to be a legacy project, ongoing and renewing, as a way to bring honour and respect to the veterans connected to Yorkton and area - those who have served our country, from the past and the present - and to bring an awareness of their dedication to our residents.

Showcasing our veterans through the banners, which will be displayed from the beginning of October to immediately after Remembrance Day, will be a tribute to those who should be recognized and not forgotten.

This project would not have been possible without the support of many people, including our dedicated committee members. Thank you!

The committee would especially like to express its appreciation to the following for their valuable contributions:

- Karen Parker, for her patience, hard work and hours of phone calls and emails;
- Chad McDowell for photo editing and data management;
- The City of Yorkton for its assistance and financial support;
- Randy Goulden and Tourism Yorkton for their advice and help;
- Michael Wyatt of Michael Wyatt Designs for the banner design;
- Source Embroidery for banner printing;
- Dick DeRyk and UncommonSense Business Solutions for this guide.

The Royal Canadian Legion

The Royal Canadian Legion is Canada's largest veteran support and community service organization. The General Alexander Ross Branch was founded in 1926. We currently have over 100 members and we work to make a difference in the lives of veterans and their families, provide essential services within the community, and remember the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Through our annual Poppy campaign, we are able to raise funds and make yearly donations to Air Cadets, Army Cadets, Navy League Cadets, The Health Foundation of East Central Saskatchewan, SIGN Senior Mobility, Meals on Wheels, Dundurn Military Family Resource Centre, Moose Jaw Military Family Resource Centre, Leave the Streets Behind program, Discovering the Power in Me program and other programs as needed including support for local nursing homes and retirement communities.

Bursaries are awarded annually to eight high school students to financially support their post-secondary education. We involve our local youth in Remembrance assemblies every Veterans Week and encourage their participation with our Remembrance Poster and Literary Contests. Several schools help us prepare for the Poppy campaign and Cadets and Scouts help out yearly with Tag Day.
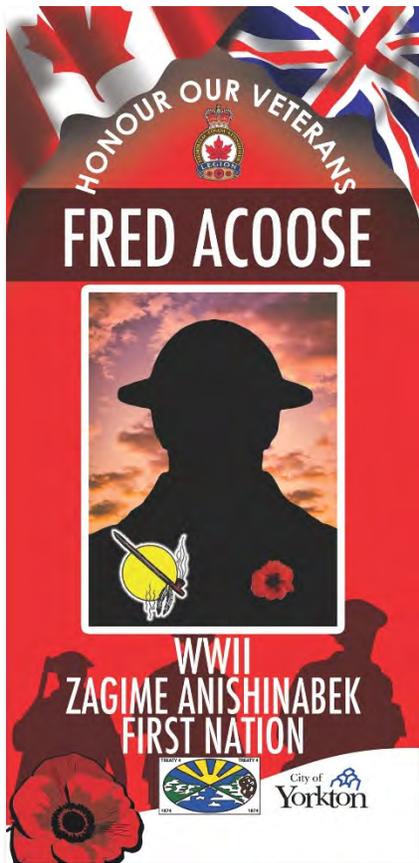
Fred Acoose
WWII

"In 1939, Canada found itself at war for the second time in a generation. As in the First World War (1914-18), thousands of Indigenous soldiers and nurses volunteered for the war effort at home and abroad, serving with distinction in the Canadian army, navy, and air force. At least 3090 First Nations soldiers enlisted in the Canadian military in the Second World War, with thousands more Métis, Inuit, and non-Status Indian soldiers serving without official recognition of their Indigenous identity."
--TheCanadianEncyclopedia.com

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
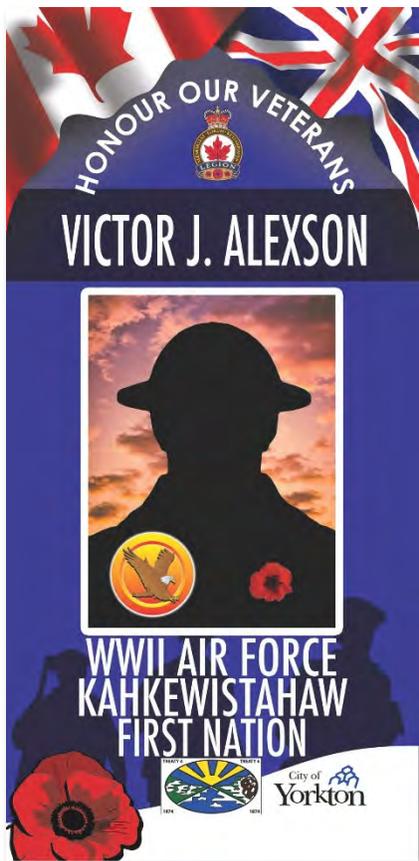
Victor James Alexson
WWII, RCAF

Victor Alexson voluntarily enlisted to serve his country, and was at one of the most horrific battles of WWII - Dieppe. He survived the battle, but when he was discharged, he struggled with shell-shock. His family felt he was not the same man when he came out of the war as he was before his service. Sadly, Victor Alexson died at age 58.

"While exact statistics are difficult to determine, the rate of Indigenous participation in Canada's military efforts over the years has been impressive. These determined volunteers were often forced to overcome many challenges to serve in uniform, from learning a new language and adapting to cultural differences, to having to travel great distances from their remote communities just to enlist."
--Veterans.gc.ca

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
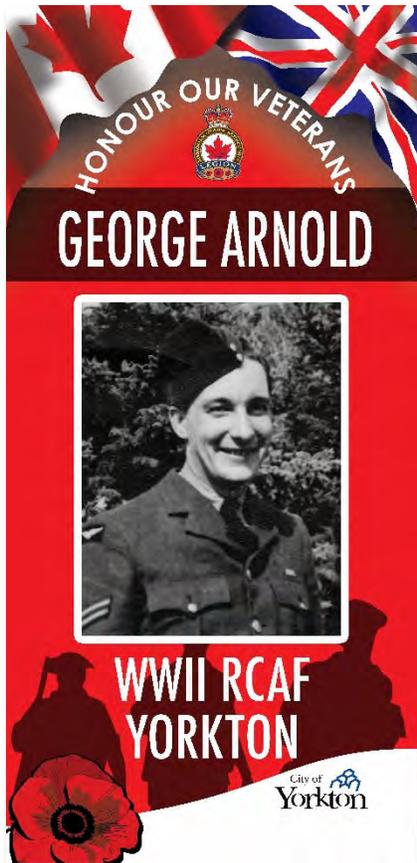
George Oscar Arnold
WWII, RCAF

George was born in April, 1924, and was the eldest of five children born to Emil and Helen Arnold of Stalwart, SK. George enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1942. He entered the Western Emergency Training Plan based in Moose Jaw, and then took basic training in Toronto. He later saw duty at Davidson, Yorkton, Winnipeg and Portage La Prairie. In 1946, he married Loraine Mooney of Imperial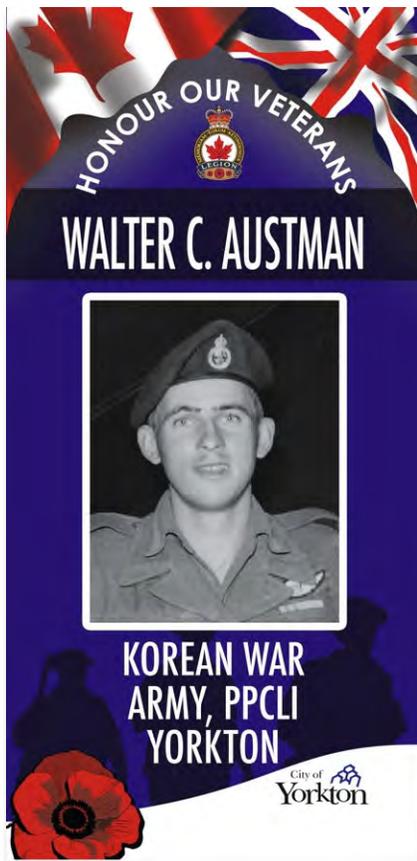, SK, and took his discharge later that year. Yorkton became home to George and his wife in 1969, where he continues to reside today.

Honoured by the Arnold family

Walter C. Austman
Korean War, United Nations PPCLI

Walter (Wally) Austman, 1932-2010, grew up on a farm near Spy Hill, and spent the last 37 years of his life in Yorkton. Wally joined the Canadian Army in 1950, a month after his 18th birthday. Posted to the 1st Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (Airborne), he was trained as a paratrooper, qualified as a Marksman/Sharpshooter, and then received additional training as a radio operator. He was posted to Korea and served three UN tours of duty with more than 18 months spent in various positions at the front, including close-quarter combat on Hill 355, The Hook, Hill 166, and numerous fighting and recce patrols into North Korean/Chinese positions. He was a proud member of the Legion and marched with the Colour Party at every opportunity.

Honoured by his loving family: the Halls, Austmans and Feists
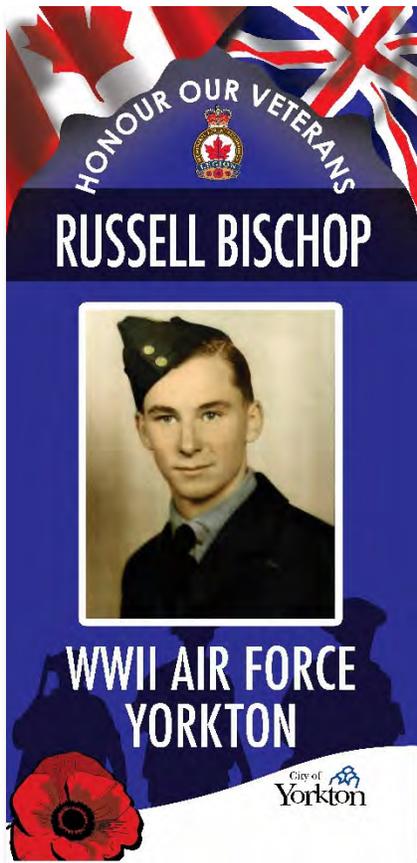
Russell Bischop
WWII, RCAF

Russell Bischop was born on November 28, 1920 in Dunleath SK. He was raised in Yorkton SK. Russell joined the RCAF in 1940 as an aero-design engineer. He remustered in 1942 as a pilot. Russell was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion General Alexander Ross Branch #77 for 70 years. In 1984, Russell rebuilt a World War II Cornell training plane. The project was completed in 1990. The plane was airworthy and Russell flew it many times. Russell passed away in 2016.
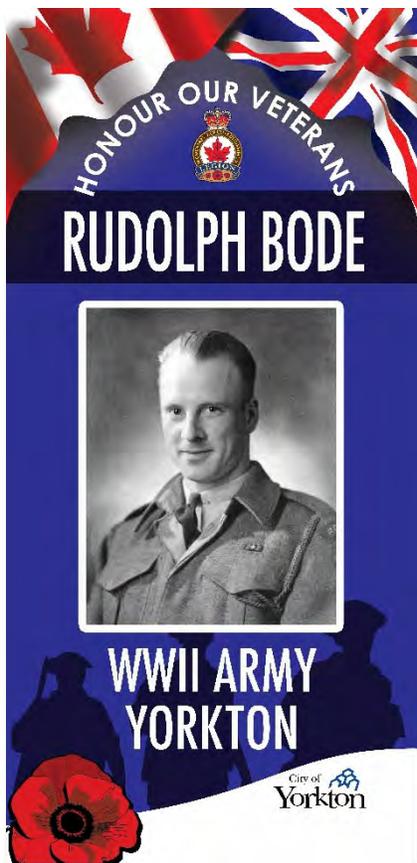
Honoured by the Bischop family

Rudolph (Rudy) Bode
WWII, Army
November 3, 1919 - October 6, 1991

Rudy enlisted in World War II training in Dundurn SK. He was stationed in Vernon BC as a Gunner with the Artillery when Japan attempted to enter North America through the Aleutian Islands. As part of the joint Canadian/US forces, he went into action at Kiska Island preventing the Japanese advance. After the war, Rudy returned to Sheho SK and married Lil Feuchuk. He worked at the Yorkton Milling Company and then with the public school division until he retired. Rudy and Lil raised five children: Leonard, Dennis, Dale Desmarais, Garth and Daryl. Rudy earned his Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Royal Canadian Legion at the General Alexander Ross Branch in Yorkton where he also received a Certificate of Merit for outstanding service.

Honoured by the Bode family
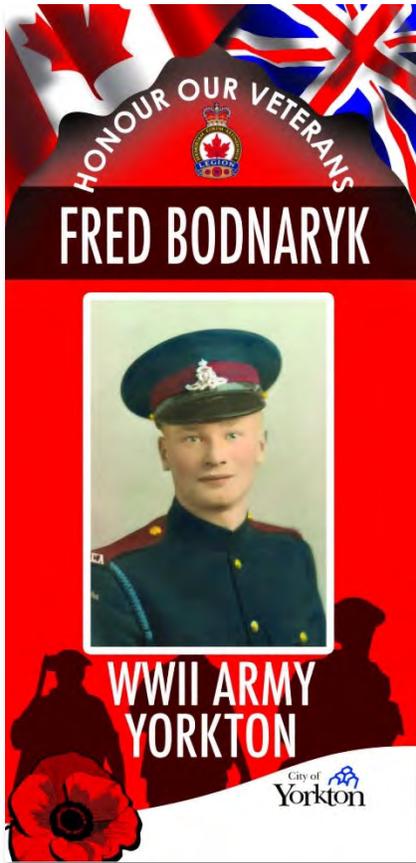
Fred Bodnaryk
WWII, Army

Fred Bodnaryk was born in 1921 in the Hampton District of Saskatchewan. He enlisted in the Army on Jan. 1, 1943 and reported to the Canadian Army No. 12 Clearing Depot in Regina. He travelled by train to Vancouver and on to Victoria via the Queen Mary ship to take his basic training for six months. He then travelled to North Vancouver for his advanced training. Fred was with the RCA Heavy Artillery F Troupe 21st Battery 28th Regiment. He was in charge of one detachment, which consisted of 12 men to one gun. He did a lot of guard duty of the Lion's Gate Bridge and similar structures. He was drafted overseas but was not called. After his discharge Fred worked at the Sawyer Massey Ammo factory in Hamilton, Ontario, building naval guns. In the spring of 1945 Fred returned to the family farm.

Honoured by the Bodnaryk and Holowatuk families
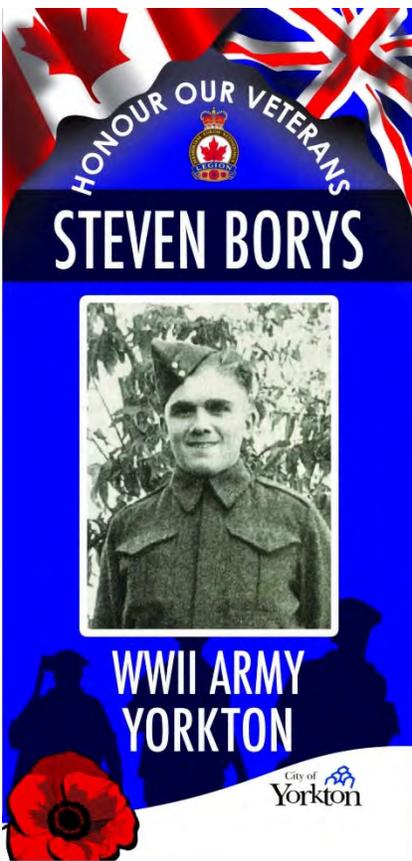
Steven Borys
WWII, Army

Steven was born October 5, 1918 and was the son of Metro and Mary Borys of Yorkton. He attended Fone Hill School, was a sportsman - loving all sports - and a true prairie farm boy. Steven joined the Canadian Army Infantry in June 1940 and was part of the South Saskatchewan Regiment. He served during WWII and was killed in action at the Battle of Dieppe when the South Saskatchewan Regiment landed on Green Beach to take part in Operation Jubilee on August 19, 1942. He was 24 years old. Steven is honoured at the Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery, Hautot-Sur-Mer, France. May he rest in peace.

Honoured by the Borys Family
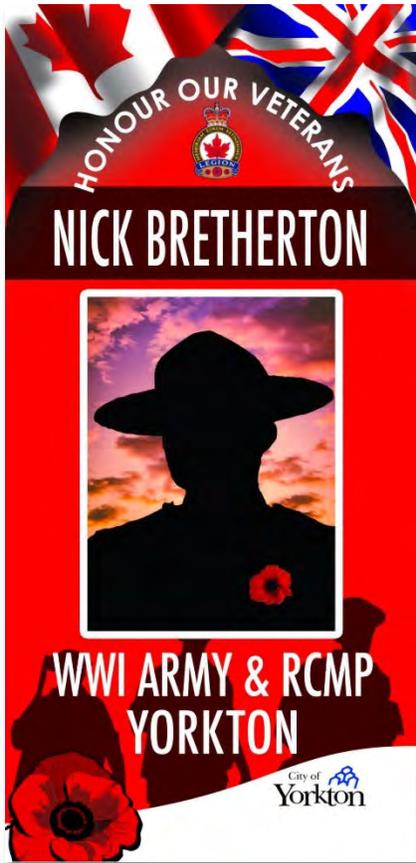
Nicholas Bretherton
WWII, Army and RCMP

Nicholas Bretherton was born in Litham, Lancashire, England on Aug. 5, 1893. He enlisted in Moose Jaw SK in 1915 but had already served in the Active Militia for one year and spent three years in the 4th V3/4B Royal North Lancashire Regiment. By 1920, Nicholas's final rank was Acting Company Sergeant Major of the 46th Battalion, Canadian Infantry. He received his Military Medal in 1917, his Military Medal First Bar in 1919, and his Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1920. Sergeant Bretherton went on to join the RCMP upon his return to Canada and served his community in Yorkton where he retired as Staff Sergeant. He was buried in Yorkton in 1970.
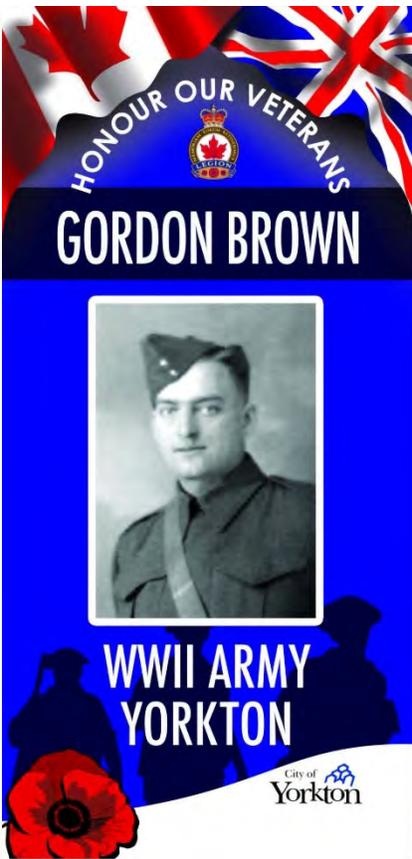
Nominated by Mathew Stringfellow
Honoured by Yorkton RCMP City Detachment, S/Sgt. Jeff Simpson

Gordon Brown
WWII, Army

On January 30, 1940, at the age of 23 in the city of Regina, Gordon enlisted in the army. He became part of the Transportation 1st Corps Ammunition Park R.C.A.S.C. Gordon landed in Scotland on February 8, 1940. He was involved in bringing soldiers back from Dunkirk and taking troops to the ships for Dieppe and bringing fewer soldiers home. In 1943 his unit joined the Italian campaign. He was one of the few Canadians to experience the liberation of Rome. His unit then moved on to Naples and then across to France. They travelled up the French Riviera to Netherlands. At the end of the war, Gordon joined the Army of Occupation in Germany. He was discharged on Feb. 4, 1946.

Honoured by Lorne and Juanita Brown and family
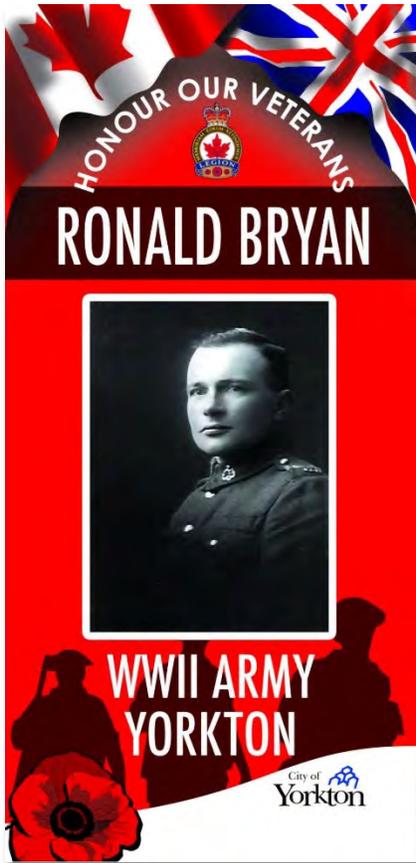
Ronald Bryan
WWII, Army

Ronald was born in Tonkin SK in 1922. He lived on the farm until enlisting in the Army in 1942. He served as a gunner until demobilization in 1946. He served in Canada, Britain and Northwest Europe. In Netherlands, he met the love of his life, Betty. They were married at the end of the war and came back to Canada. They started their life together in Yorkton SK in 1956. Later they moved to Winnipeg where Ronald worked at CNR until his retirement at 65. Ronald died in Winnipeg in 2006 at 84 years of age.

Honoured by Rex and Randy Goulden
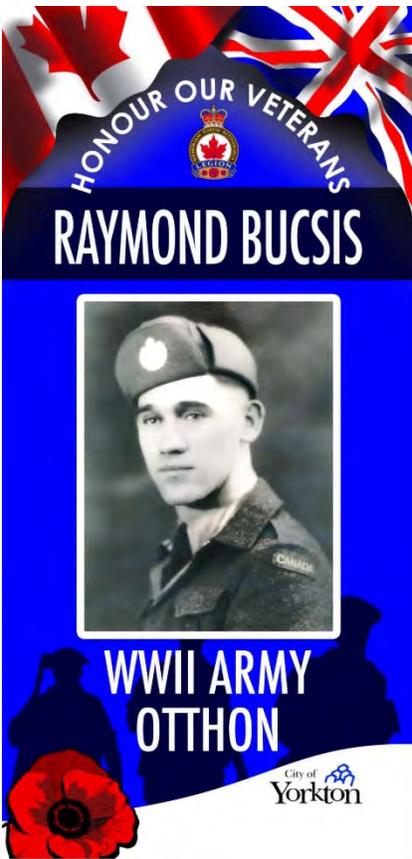
Raymond Bucsis
WWII, Army

Raymond Bucsis was born in the Happy Centre district of Saskatchewan, south of Willowbrook, in 1922. He served with the South Saskatchewan Regiment and spent time in England, France, Belgium and Netherlands during the war. At the conclusion of the war, Raymond was part of the occupation forces in Germany. Raymond met and married Emily (Kay) Bull while in England. They made their home in the Otthon area, where they farmed and raised their family.

Honoured by Dave Bucsis and family
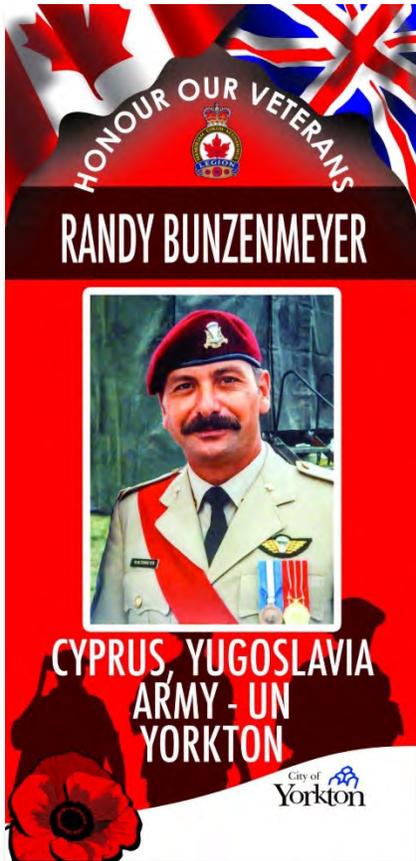
Randy Bunzenmeyer
United Nations Cyprus, Yugoslavia, Army

Born May 21, 1957 in Yorkton SK, Bunzy joined the Canadian Armed Forces, PPCLI, in 1973 at age 17. Randy completed 20 years of service with 1 PPCLI, based in Calgary AB and an additional three years with 2 Commando, Canadian Airborne Regiment, based in Petawawa ON. After numerous trips as a UN peacekeeper in foreign countries, he retired with the rank of Master Warrant Officer (MWO) and as Sergeant Major of B Company 1 PPCLI in 1996. Randy served on multiple deployments into Cyprus and Yugoslavia, and was a talented Master Sniper, Reconnaissance Patrolman and Paratrooper. Known to his friends as Bunzy, he will always be remembered for his big broad smile, his mischievous grin, and his fun loving eyes. On May 20, 2001 PTSD sadly claimed Randy's life. He leaves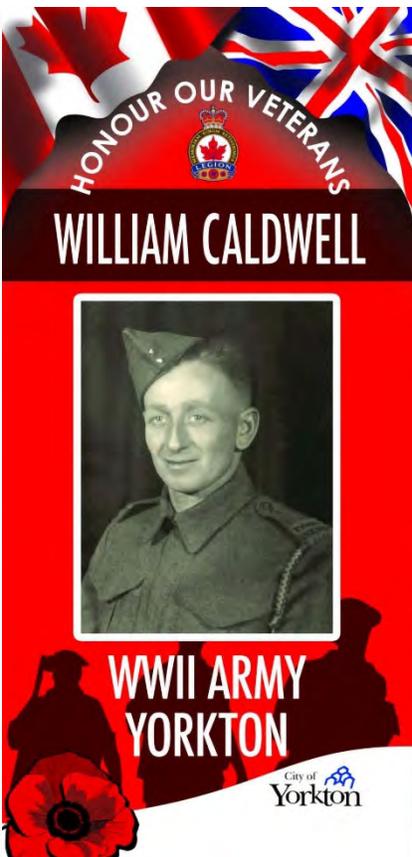 behind a loving family and an army of friends. In Bunzy's memory, and for the sake of other veterans, please become aware of Military Minds, the Rolling Barrage, and the horrifyingly damaging effects of PTSD.

Honoured by his family and friends

William Joseph Caldwell
WWII, Army

William (Bill) Joseph Caldwell (1910-1971), a lifelong resident of Yorkton and area, served in WWII. He volunteered in 1940 and served with the 20 Army Tank Regiment (16/22 Sask. Horse) and 28 Canadian Armoured Regiment (Duke of Connaughts). Bill served in Canada, Britain, Northwest Europe, and participated in the liberation of Netherlands. For his service he was awarded five medals. Bill was a proud veteran of the Canadian Army and a member of the Yorkton Legion, General Alexander Ross Branch. He and his wife (Marguerite Rice) raised five children in a wartime house on Peaker Avenue.

Honoured by His children Carmella, Judy, Francis, Elaine and Bernice
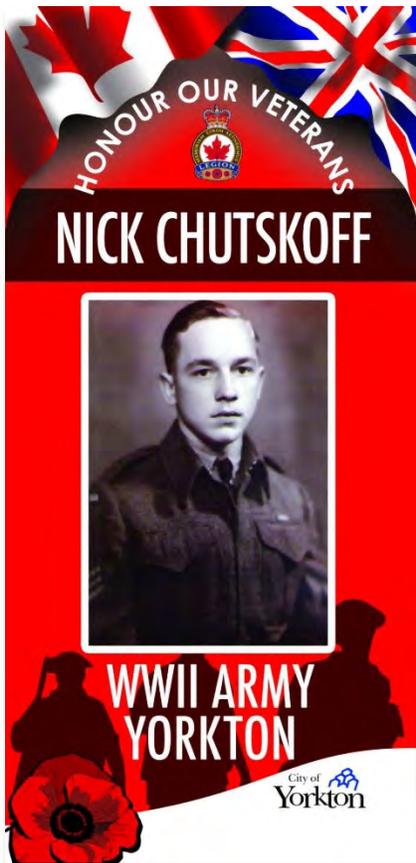
Nick Chutskoff
WWII, Army

Nick was born on August 31, 1921 near the village of Runnymede SK. In 1942, Nick enlisted with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Winnipeg. He rose to the rank of Acting Company Sgt. Major, and participated in the liberation of Netherlands. Following his discharge from the army, he married Irene Mary Howe in 1946. Nick and his family spent many years in Yorkton. He was a respected businessman and an active member of the Yorkton Legion as well as the Yorkton Rotary Club. Following the death of his first wife in 1986, Nick retired to British Columbia. He met his second wife, Iris Craig, in 1990. After a long and enjoyable retirement, Nick Chutskoff passed away in White Rock BC on March 9, 2018, at the age of 96.
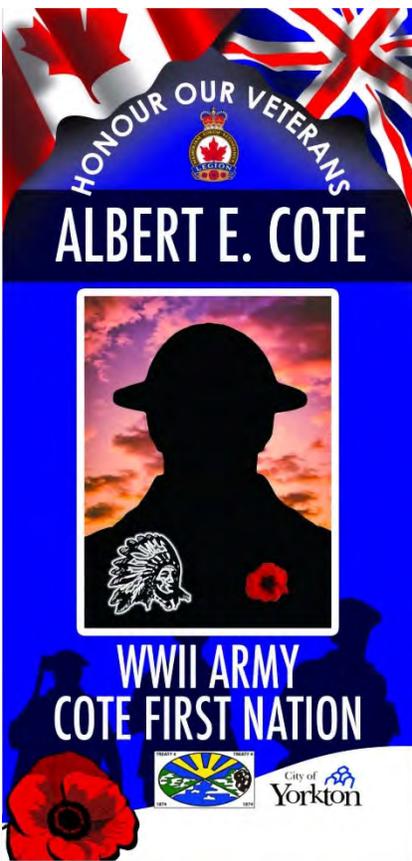
Honoured by the Chutskoff family

Albert E. Cote
WWII, Army, New Brunswick Rangers

Corporal Albert E. Cote fought in WWII in the 4th Canadian Division. He served in England, France, Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany from August 12, 1940 to February 1945. He was a proud member of the New Brunswick Rangers.

"In 1943, the Rangers were sent to Britain, where they were converted to a heavy weapons support unit, armed with machine guns and mortars in preparation for the invasion of Normandy. Present at many of the critical moments of the campaign, the Rangers participated in the Battle of the Falaise Gap, which cleared the way for the advance on Paris and the German border; the Battle of the Scheldt, which secured the vital supply lines of the port of Antwerp; and the Battle of the Reichswald, when German resistance on the west bank of the Rhine was finally broken."
--Matthew Douglass

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
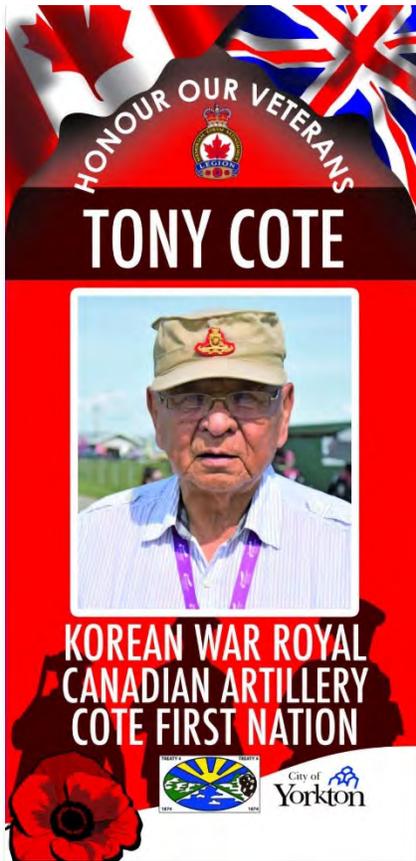
Antoine (Tony) Cote
Korean War, Royal Canadian Artillery

Tony was born at the Cote First Nation Reserve in 1935, the youngest child of Frank and Ellen Cote, and great-grandson of Chief Gabriel Cote, a spokesperson for Saulteaux Tribes for the Treaty 4 signing. He joined the Canadian Army 25th Infantry Brigade in 1952 and spent nearly six years as a bombardier with the 81st Field Regiment in the Royal Canadian Artillery from 1952 to 1958, serving 14 months in Korea. Tony is a survivor of the Indian Residential School and perhaps because of this horrific experience is known for his philanthropy and dedication to Indigenous people in Saskatchewan and Alberta. He was inducted in the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 2011, Saskatchewan Order of Merit (SOM) in 2008, and received the Tom Longboat Medal in 1974. He received much recognition, many awards, and accomplished many firsts for Saskatchewan First Nations while Chief of Cote First Nation (1970-1978), YTC Tribal Chief (1973-1976 and 1995 – 2000), and FSIN Executive Council Member (1976 – 1980). Mr. Cote died in 2019 at the age of 84.

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
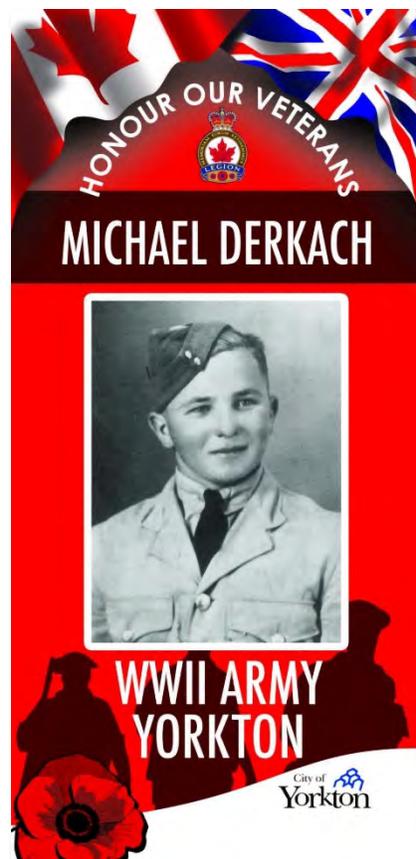
Michael Derkach
WWII, Army

Michael Derkach was born on Dec. 25, 1923 in Bedfordville SK. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Engineer Corps on June 5, 1942 in Saskatoon. Mike trained in Dundurn SK and Nanaimo BC. He served overseas in Great Britain and the Northwest European Campaigns in the UK, France, Germany, Belgium and Netherlands. In his enlisted service, he did MT work and qualified as a Driver Mechanic Group C. An Honourable Sapper, he was discharged on January 26, 1946. His medals and decorations include the 1939 - 45 Star, the France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp and War Medal 1939 - 45. Mike married Mary Stelmacovich in 1947. He served as a Legion member from the 1960s to 1991. He worked many years in Yorkton before his death in 1991, at the age of 67.

Honoured by the Derkach family
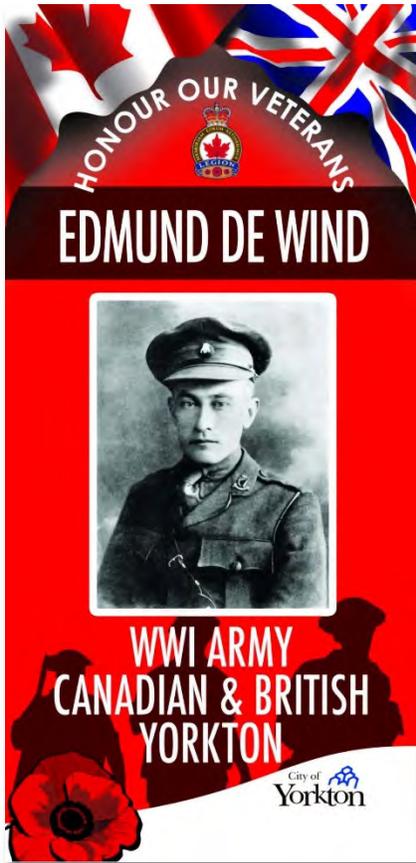
Edmund De Wind
WWI, Canadian and British Army

Edmund De Wind, VC, (Dec.11, 1883 – March 21, 1918) was a British Army officer during WWI, and posthumous recipient of the Victoria Cross, the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded to British and Commonwealth forces. He served with The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada for a period of six months prior to his enlistment in Yorkton as a private on Nov.16, 1914, in the 31st Battalion-Alberta Regiment, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. He arrived in France with the 2nd Division of CEF in September 1915. He saw action in the Battle of the Somme (1916) and at Vimy Ridge (1917). He earned a commission in September 1917 in the British Army. As a 34-year-old Second Lieutenant in the 15th Battalion, The Royal Irish Rifles, he was awarded the VC for deeds committed during the 1918 Spring Offensive on 21 March 1918. He died on that day.

Honoured by ChickenCow's Hearing Centre
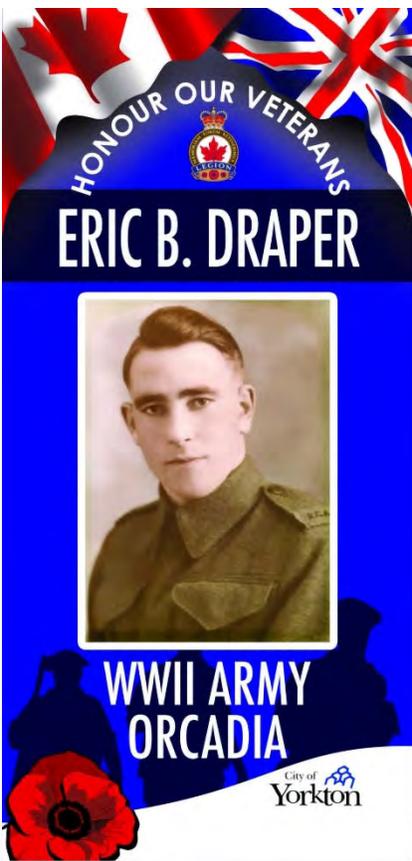
Eric B. Draper
WWII, Army

Eric was born on Oct. 8, 1918 on a farm near Orcadia. He attended school in Yorkton, and when the war broke out in 1939 he enlisted with the 64th Battery in Yorkton. He trained in Saskatoon and Dundurn and then went to Fort Garry in Winnipeg. From there, he travelled to Ottawa, Montreal and New York, before sailing for England on the Empress of Japan. Six weeks later, he was transferred to the 5th Division, 17th Field, Royal Canadian Artillery Armoured Tank Division. He trained for a month in northern England and then mobilized to Italy where he first saw action at Ortona on January 13, 1944. After leaving Italy, he went through France, Belgium, Netherlands and into Germany itself. After the war, Eric came home to farm in the Fone Hill area. He belonged to the Yorkton Legion for many years before passing away in 2003 at 85 years of age.

Honoured by his family
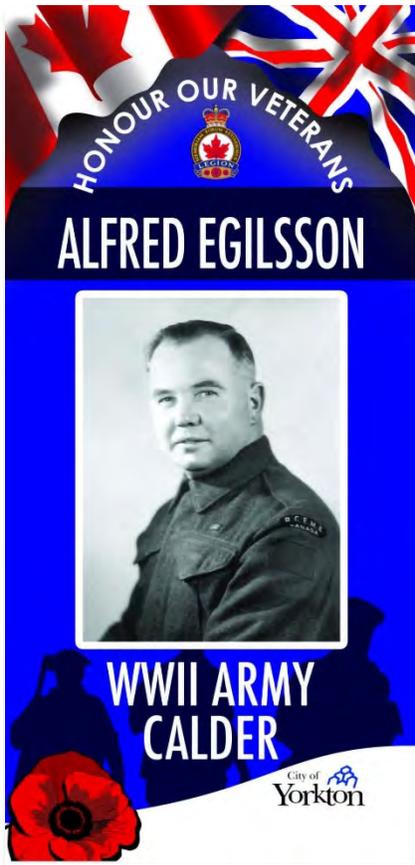
Alfred M. Egilsson
WWII, Army

Alfred was born in Winnipeg MB in 1907. He enlisted in the army and served with the 4th Armoured Division RCEME. He served during WWII in Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Germany with trade qualification as a blacksmith. After being trapped in a sewer in Dordrecht, Netherlands, with another soldier from Calder (Mike Calanchie), they were given refuge in a home, the owners putting themselves at great risk by hiding them. He received the 3rd Red Service Chevron, 1939 - 1945 Star, France and Germany Star and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp. He volunteered as an MP in Netherlands after the Armistice and stayed a year. Alfred passed away in 2002.

Honoured by Bernie Egilsson, Kelly Egilsson and Kristi Egilsson Lanlois
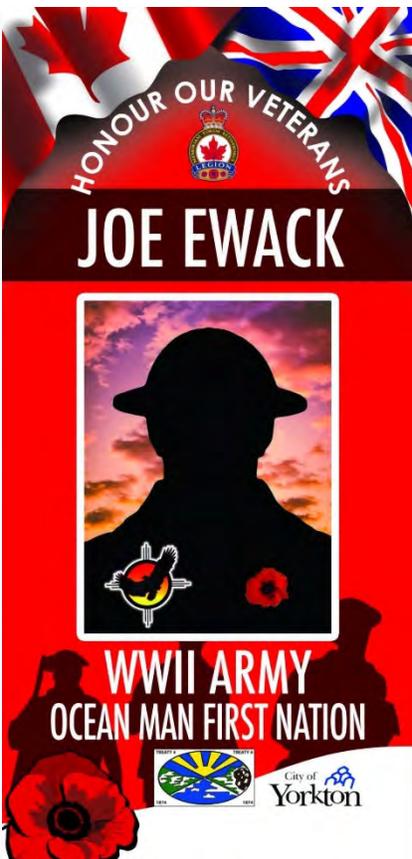
Joe Ewack
WWII, Army

Joe Ewack was born in White Bear First Nation on February 16, 1921. He was a proud member of the White Bear First Nation, and later Ocean Man First Nation, a band of Assiniboine, Cree and Saulteaux whose agricultural development was noted in many reports over the years. In 1941 he married Rose Lavallee. He enlisted to serve his country in WWII and survived being a prisoner of war. His bravery and valour should be honoured and remembered.

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
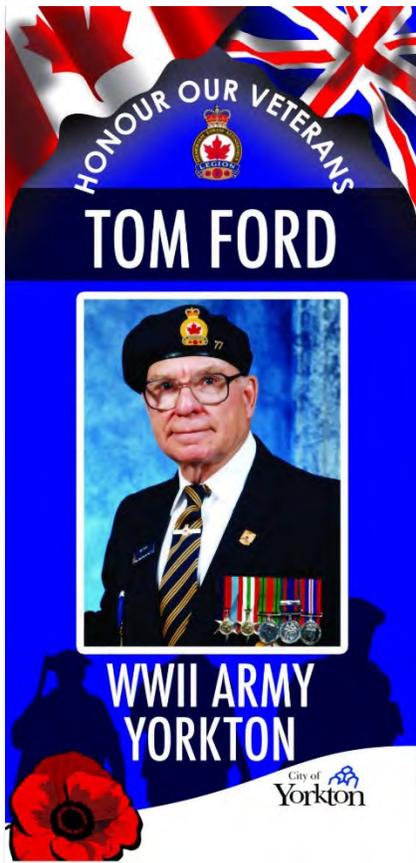
Tom Ford
WWII, Army

Tom Ford was born on March 30, 1923 at Carmel SK. He joined the army on March 30, 1942 at Regina. He became a member of the British Columbia Dragoons and served overseas in the British Isles and Italy as a Gunner. He received his discharge on March 30, 1945 at Vancouver. Tom was injured when the tank he was in was blown up. He was the only one to survive. He spent six months in the hospital. Upon his release, he took the train from Vancouver and got off when his money ran out, which happened to be in Yorkton. He worked at North Star Service as a young mechanic and became the owner with his partner. The tiny Shell service station at the corner of Broadway and Myrtle Avenue was a very busy place until its closure in 1996. Tom remained a devoted volunteer of the Yorkton Legion until his passing at the age of 84.
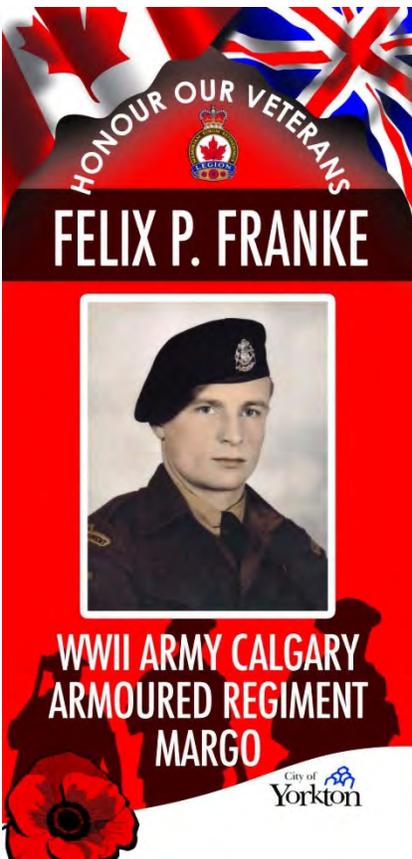
Honoured by Wayne, Brian, Dwight, Candice and Kevin, the Ford family

Felix P. Franke
WWII, Army, Calgary Armoured Regiment

Felix P. Franke (1922-1998) enlisted in the Calgary Armoured Regiment in January 1944. After training in Great Britain, Felix entered Germany in the last days of the war. He then served with the occupation forces in Germany, Netherlands, and Belgium. Felix was discharged from Canadian Army in 1946.

Honoured by Allan and Juliette Franke and family
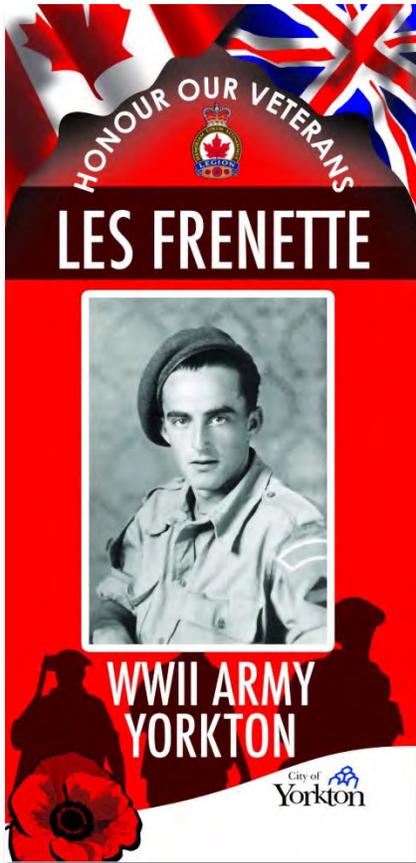
Les Frenette
WWII, Army

Les Frenette was born Oct. 17, 1922 in Fort Frances ON and later moved to Winnipeg MB where he enlisted in the Canadian Army on November 10, 1942 with his brother Gerald. He was deployed to England and fought through Italy, France, Belgium and Germany. He was discharged on March 22, 1946 and was honored to hold the 1939/45 Star, the Italy Star, France and Germany Star, and Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. Upon moving to Yorkton, he opened City Radiator which he ran with his wife until his passing on April 29, 1976. He was blessed with two children, Larry (Frenette) and Linda (Stamatinos).

Honoured by Linda Stamatinos, Larry Frenette and their families
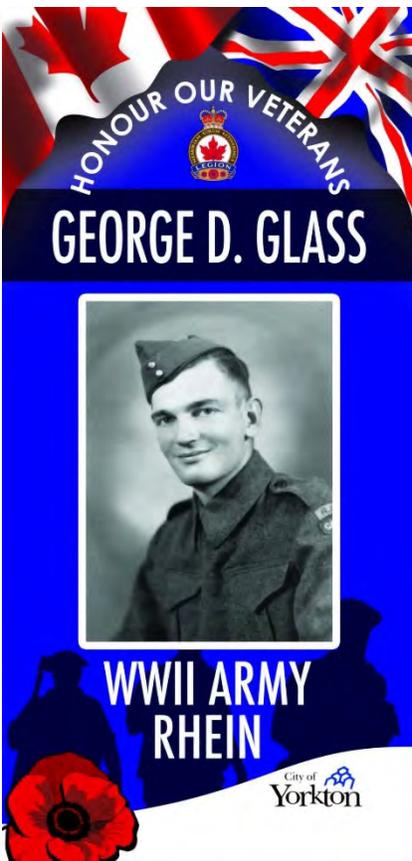
George D. Glass
WWII, Army

George Dobie Glass was born February 20, 1919 in the Rhein District. He was the son of James and Agnes Glass and attended both Clyde and Shamrock Schools. George enlisted in 1942 in the Royal Canadian Army, and served with the Engineering Corps overseas. He was discharged in 1945. George returned to the family farm and purchased additional land which he farmed until his retirement. George continued to reside on the farm until his passing on January 9, 1994.

Honoured by his family
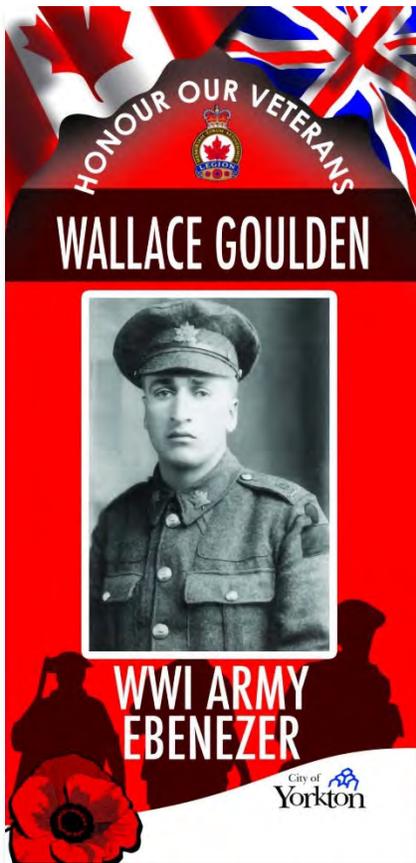
Wallace Goulden
WWI, Army

Wallace (Wally) Goulden was born in Llandow, Wales, in 1891. In adulthood, he moved to Saskatchewan and in Regina on January 4, 1916 he enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, with which he served throughout the entire war in Europe. After the war, he returned to Canada and settled in Kamsack, where he fathered three children. He passed away in 1970 at the age of 79.

Honoured by Rex and Randy Goulden
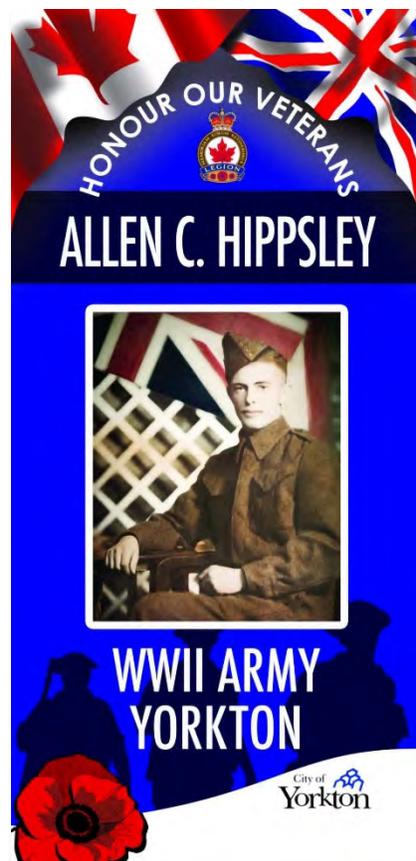
Allen C. Hippsley
WWII, Army

Allen C. Hippsley served as a wireless operator in the Calgary Regiment (Tanks) in Italy, France, Germany and Central Mediterranean. He was born in Yorkton on December 16, 1920, to Albert and Edith, and had six brothers and two sisters. Allen began playing piano in dance bands in his teenage years, continued throughout his basic training, while overseas and following his discharge. His favorite memory was when he played a white grand piano that was located in Mussolini's abandoned mansion following his arrest in 1943. In the early 50s Allen began working for Massey Ferguson and in 1962 for Roy and Gordon Brown. Allen lost his wife Evelyn (Kaping) of nearly 50 years to cancer in 2004. They were blessed with four children: Deb (Doug) Wilkinson, Allen, Mitch (Geraldine) and Krista Dean; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Honoured by his proud family
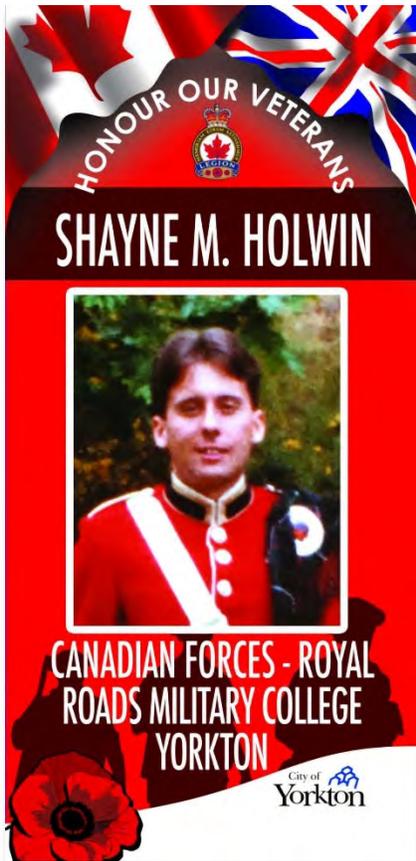
Shayne M. Holwin
Canadian Forces - Royal Roads Military College

Shayne Holwin (Holowatuk) RRMC, Officer Cadet (Military College - Engineering) was born July 22, 1964 to Matt and Elsie Holowatuk of Yorkton. After high school graduation in 1982, Shayne was accepted into Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, where he completed his first year of University. In May 1983 Shayne received the Barman award which entitled him to assist first-year students. In addition to his studies, Shayne was the top of his class in fitness and was appointed the Cadet Flight Sports Officer. He was also a snare drummer in the Military College pipe and drum band. While earning the reputation of a leader at RRMC, Shayne became ill with leukemia. Shayne then valiantly took on his most difficult battle, against the illness he fought with all his physical and spiritual strength to his last day, Dec. 17, 1984. He now watches over us from a 'higher post'.

Honoured by Swade Holowatuk and family
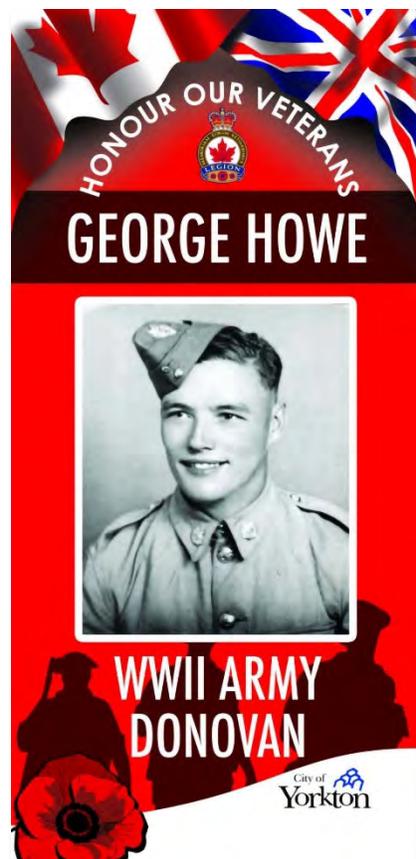
George Thomas Howe
WWII, Army

George Howe was born in the Clavet district and spent part of his childhood fostered by the Moir family in Sheho. He volunteered on May 20, 1941 with the Canadian Army and served with the 2nd Division RCASC as a mechanic. On June 6, 1944 he was part of the first wave of Canadian soldiers to land on Juno Beach in Normandy. Further tours included the United Kingdom, continental Europe, France and Netherlands until his discharge on October 17, 1945. Returning home to Saskatchewan, he farmed for a short time, and then was employed by the CNR. George was a proud Canadian who was happy to serve his country and who instilled the Canadian pride in his family.

Honoured by his family
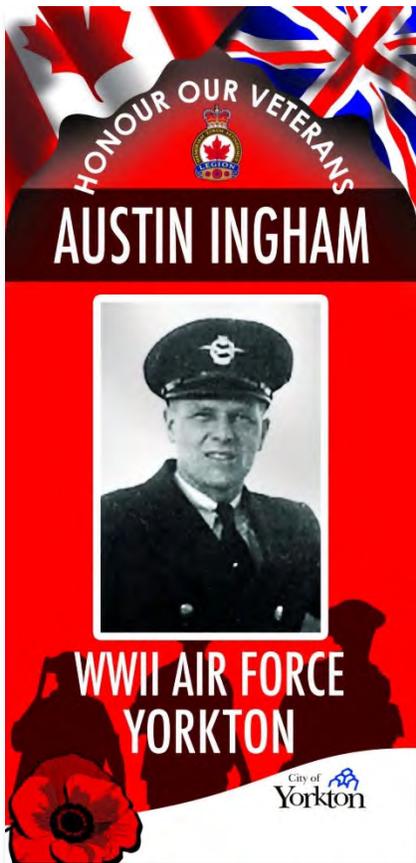
Austin E. Ingham
WWII, RCAF

Austin Elmer Ingham was born in Blairmore AB in 1906. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1939 and served in the British Commonwealth Air Training Program as a flight instructor on twin engine Avro Anson aircraft. He was stationed in Regina, Prince Albert, and Portage la Prairie, and achieved the rank of Wing Commander. After World War II, Austin Ingham established Yorkton Flying Services. He provided flight training, charter flights, aircraft maintenance and was one of the first pilots in Saskatchewan to conduct aerial crop spraying in 1950. Mr. Ingham operated Yorkton Flying Services until his passing in 1970.

Honoured by Shirley, Leslie, and Doug Ingham and families
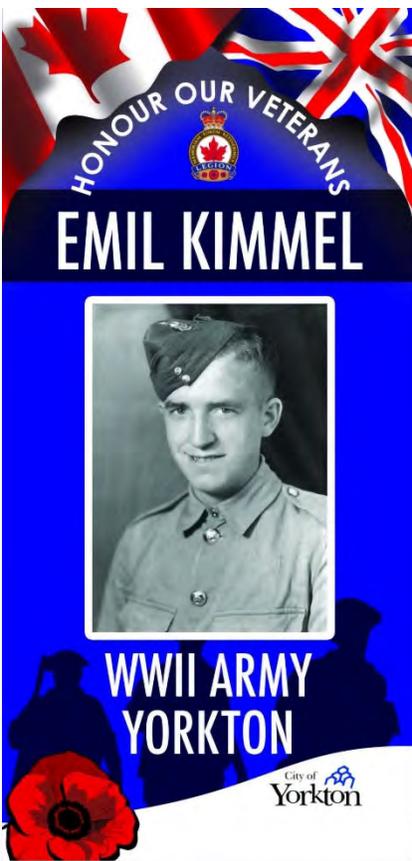

Emil Kimmel
WWII, Army

Emil Kimmel was born in 1920. At the age of 6, along with his family, Emil emigrated to Canada settling in Yorkton. Emil left Yorkton briefly for Winnipeg where at the age of 20 he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army. He served overseas in Sicily and Italy before being recruited into the First Special Service Force, an elite fighting force nicknamed the Devil's Brigade. After the unit disbanded, Emil joined the P.P.C.L.I. fighting on the front lines in both Netherlands and southern France. Upon release from the army, Emil returned to Yorkton where he married Agnes Lowenberg. Together they had three children: Gerry, Janice and Brenda. He remained in Yorkton for the rest of his life until he died at 88 years of age.

Honoured by Brenda Slogoski

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
BERTRAND KIRKHAM
WWII AIR FORCE
SALTCOATS
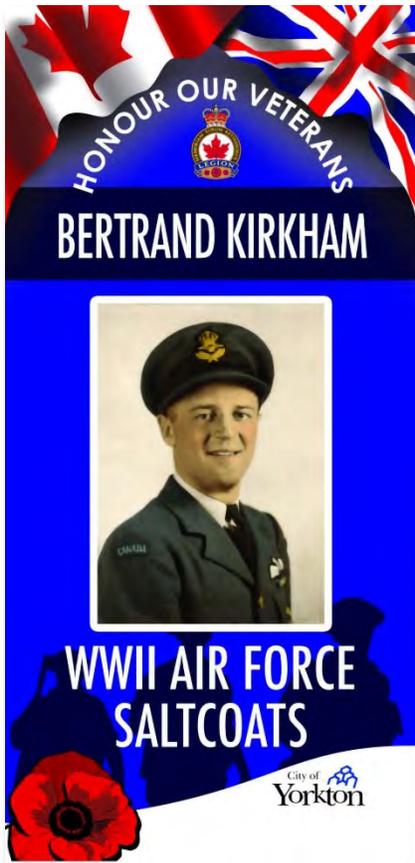
Bertrand D. Kirkham
WWII, RCAF

Bert was born on the family farm, Woodlands, at Saltcoats on May 23, 1921. He enlisted in June 1941 and became a pilot with Bomber Command, flying the Halifax II on night bombing missions over Germany. He flew 11 raids over Germany before being shot down in June 1942. He and his entire crew parachuted out safely but were captured. Bert spent the last twenty-three months of WWII as a POW, first at Stalag Luft 6, and then in Stalag 357. Post war, Bert farmed Woodlands, married Adeline Fullawka from Tiny SK and raised seven children. He passed away July 12, 2002.
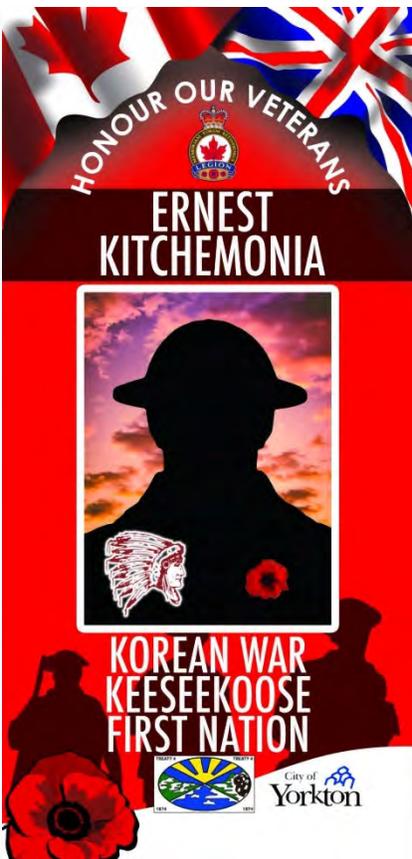
Honoured by his family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
ERNEST KITCHEMONIA
KOREAN WAR
KEESEEKOOSE FIRST NATION

Ernest Kitchemonia
Korean War

"The Korean War erupted in 1950 and several hundred Indigenous people would serve Canada in uniform during the conflict. Many of them had seen action in the Second World War which had only come to an end five years earlier. This return to service in Korea would see some of these brave individuals expanding on their previous duties in new ways. The story of Indigenous service in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War and later Canadian Armed Forces efforts is a proud one. While exact numbers are elusive, it has been estimated that as many as 12,000 First Nations, Métis and Inuit people served in the great conflicts of the 20th century, with at least 500 of them sadly losing their lives."
--Veterans.gc.ca

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
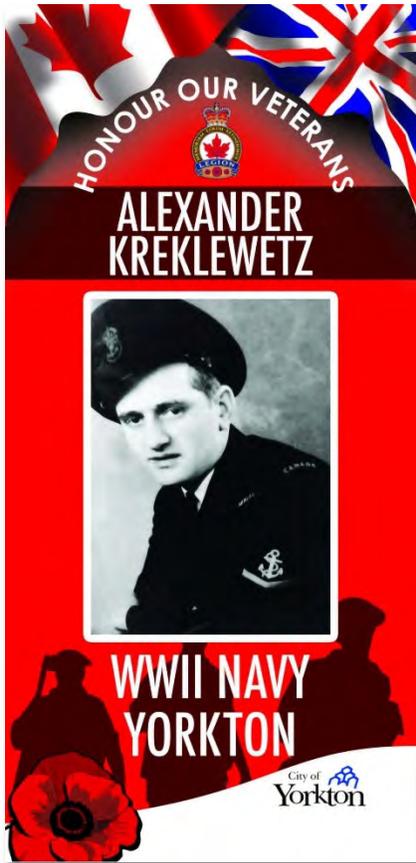
Alexander Kreklewetz
WWII, Navy

Alex was born October 31, 1922 in Kandahar SK. At the age of 10, Alex's father passed away and the family moved to Yorkton. There he completed elementary school and several years at Yorkton Collegiate. On November 12, 1942 he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. His theatre of service was Canada and high seas in the Atlantic and Pacific zones. He proudly served on the HMCS Prince David. Alex was discharged January 7, 1946 when WWII ended. He received several medals: 1939-1945 Star-France, Germany and It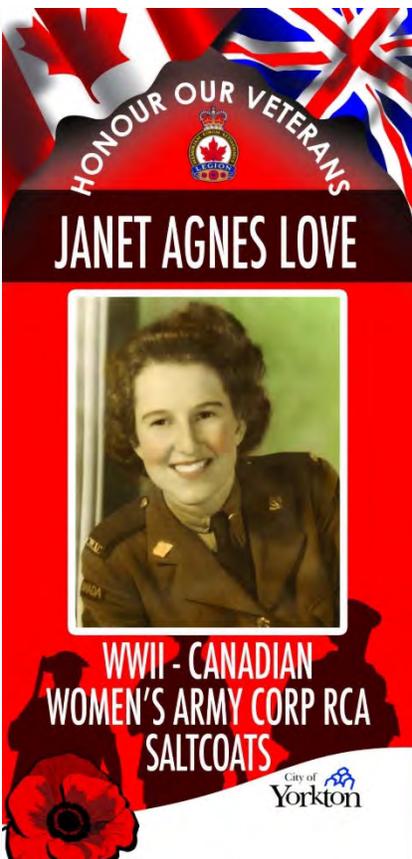aly, 1939-1945 Star-Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He married Hope Winniski in 1954. They raised two sons and a daughter. Alex passed away at home in Yorkton on October 5, 2005.

Proudly honoured by his children and grandchildren

Janet Agnes Love
WWII, Canadian Women's Army Corp and RCAF

In Vancouver on September 20, 1942, Janet Agnes Love volunteered for service. After basic training with the Canadian Women's Army Corps, Love was attached to the Royal Canadian Airforce (RCA) in Victoria as a plotter-telephonist in the Ack Ack Gun Rooms to monitor air and naval traffic on the West Coast. In time, Love was sent to Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, for officer's training and afterwards posted to Prince Rupert as a Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO). In April 1945 Love opted for an overseas position to serve in Netherlands as part of the Occupied Forces in Germany. Love's father, Thomas Charters Love, received the Military Medal for his contribution in the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917.

Honoured by her family
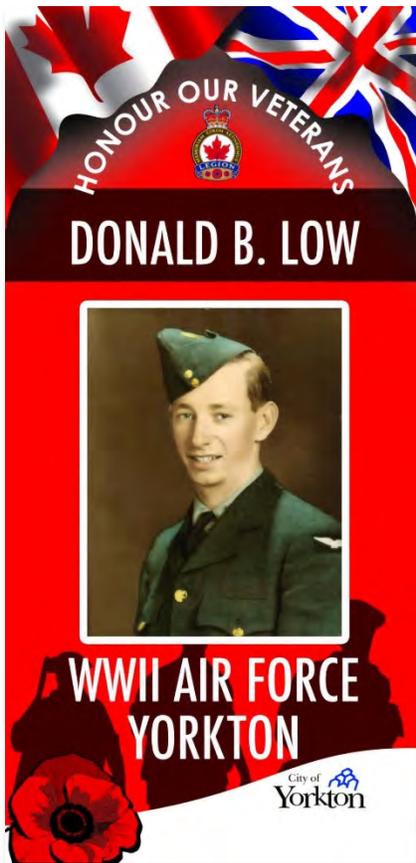
Donald Baird Low
WWII, RCAF

Donald was born in Birtle MB on March 7, 1926. At the age of 18 Don joined the RCAF with the intention of becoming a pilot, but was selected to train as a wireless gunner. He received the distinction of "expert marksman" and wore the crossed rifles and crown on his left sleeve. Three of his older brothers also served in the RCAF. After VE Day, Don signed up for the Pacific Force and received further training at Station Macdonald where they were issued and trained on American weapons. After the surrender of Japan, Don was discharged and returned to school and civilian life in Foxwarren MB. There he married the love of his life, Elaine. They moved to Bredenbury and later to Yorkton where Don worked as a mobile supervisor for the Canadian Pacific Railway. Don was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and was very proud to have received a 70-year member pin.

Honoured by his family
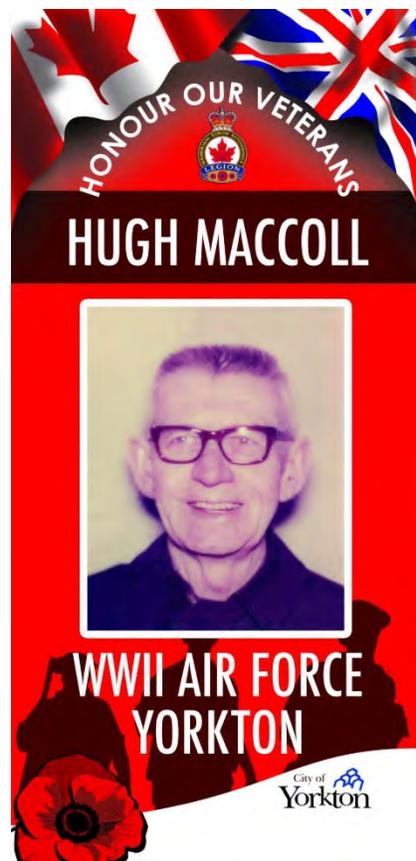
Hugh MacColl
WWII, RCAF

Cpl. Hugh Clifford (Mac) MacColl was born on January 6, 1908 in Regina, Sask. He eventually moved to Buchanan SK when he worked for the Bank of Commerce. He met and married Mary Strilaeff. In 1941 he enlisted in the RCAF and was posted to London, England, in 1943. He returned to Canada aboard the Queen Elizabeth just after Christmas, 1945. He was discharged from the RCAF on Feb 5, 1946. He and his family moved to Yorkton where he worked as an accountant. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and UCT. He died June 3, 1973.

Honoured by his family
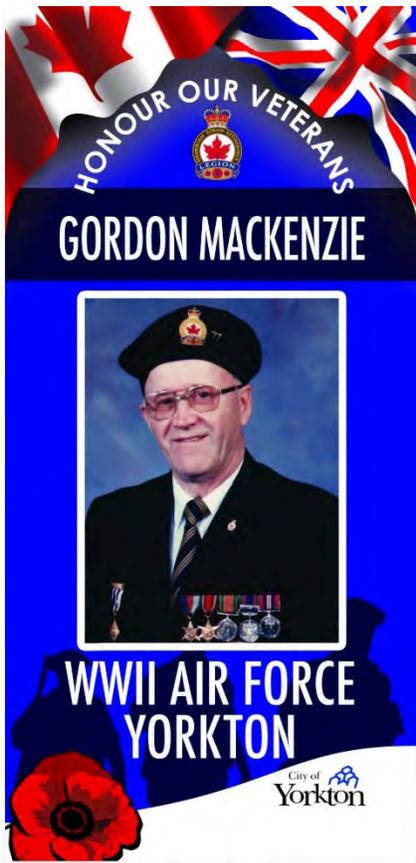
Gordon M. MacKenzie
WWII, RCAF

Gordon MacKenzie was born Feb. 5, 1922 in Kessock SK and passed away on April 27, 2003 in Yorkton. Gordon joined the RCAF in October 1942. He trained as an aircraft mechanic in Moose Jaw SK and MacLeod AB before being deployed in England, Bombay, Calcutta, and Burma. Upon his honourable discharge on March 30, 1946 Gordon began his career with the Saskatchewan Department of Highways. He married Ellen Walsh and was blessed with children James and Diane. Gordon was dedicated to community volunteerism, serving in many capacities with various organizations. He joined the General Alexander Ross #77 branch in 1946 and served on every committee. He was Legionnaire of the Year in 1990 and elected President of Branch #77 in 1992. The Royal Canadian Legion bestowing on him the Certificate of Merit (1988), Life Membership (1997) and the Meritorious Service Medal (1999). In 2002, Gordon received the Golden Jubilee Medal on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Accession.

Honoured by James and Diane MacKenzie
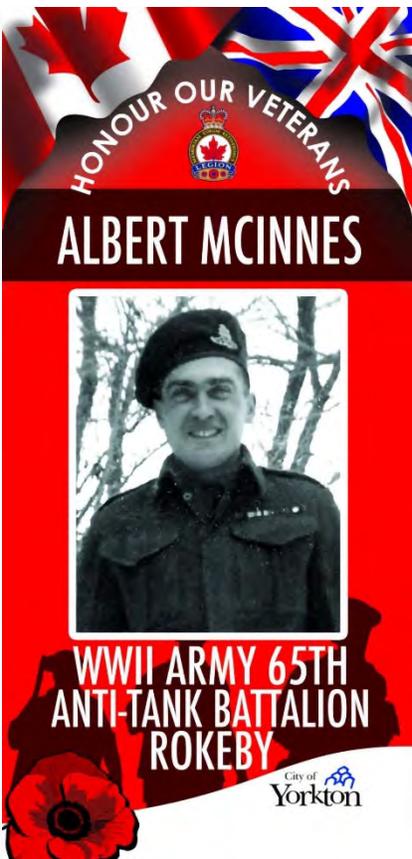
Albert M. McInnes
WWII, Army 65th Anti-Tank Battalion

Albert was born on a farm south of Yorkton and spent much of his young adult life working in the area. He joined the army on November 6, 1940 in Grenfell, and then trained in Canada until he sailed from Halifax NS for England on June 1, 1942. Albert served with the 6th Battery and the 5th Canadian Anti-Tank Regiment RCA from Sheffield Park, Sussex, where they received equipment and vehicles. From there, they shipped out to France and landed on July 26, 1944. He fought in France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany. He was wounded at Esschen, Netherlands on October 21, 1944. On February 21, 1946, he was discharged from the RCA and returned home to Rokeby.

Honoured by Brooke, Linda and Wayne McInnes

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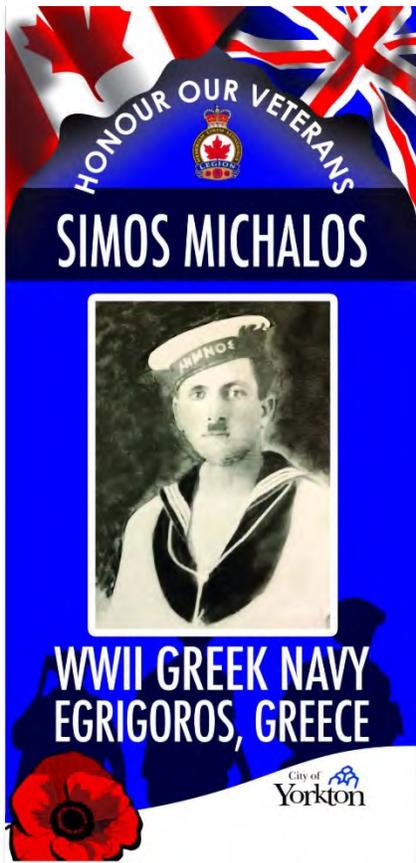
Simos Michalos
WWII, Greek Navy

Simos was born in Greece in 1908 and was raised in the village of Egrigoros on the island of Chios. He served in WWII and fought until the Greek forces surrendered to Germany in May 1941. Originally in the Royal Greek Navy, he was later drafted into the army to fight the Italian forces in Northern Greece and Albania. Simos returned to his village of Egrigoros after the war and farmed with his wife and seven children. His daughter Mary Michalos immigrated to Canada with her family in 1964, followed by her siblings Iris, Sotiris, Gregory and Elias.
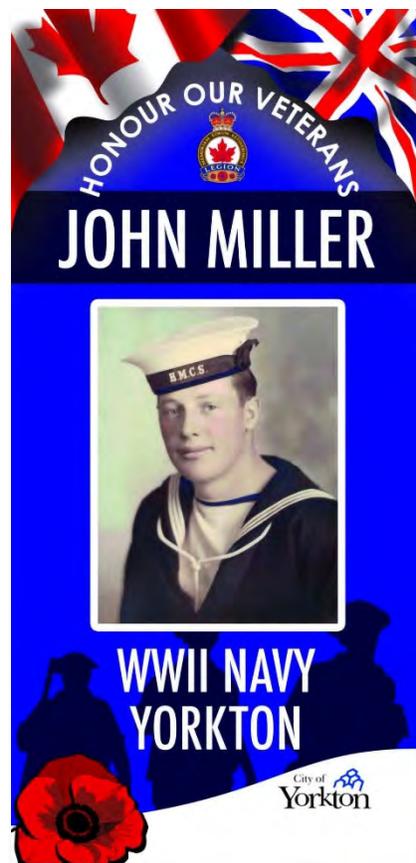
Honoured by Mary Stamatinos and family

John Miller
WWII, Navy

John was born on Aug. 11, 1923 and was raised on a farm near Orcadia SK with nine siblings. In April 1943 John left home to join the navy and was stationed in Southampton to continue landing craft training for the Normandy invasion. His craft made numerous trips across the English Channel carrying troops to battle. After the war John returned home to farm near Rokeby SK where he and his wife Joyce raised seven children. He retired to Yorkton from dairy farming after a brush with death, being saved from a charging bull by his trusty dog Butch. He spent much of his retirement volunteering to various charities and organizations, receiving many accolades and awards along the way.

Honoured by his family
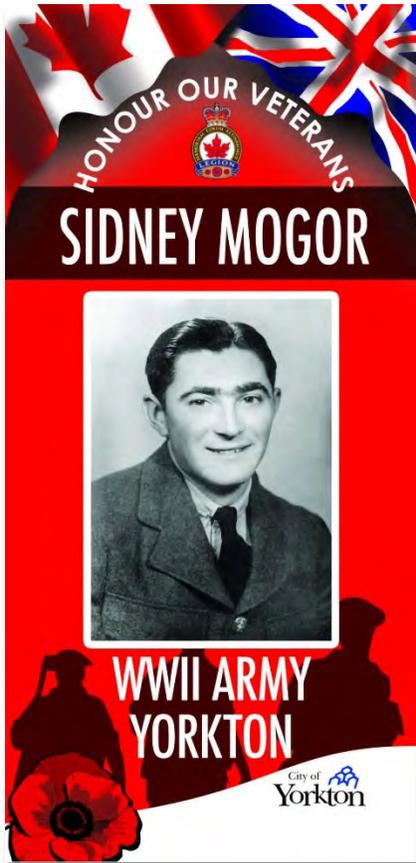
Sidney (Dashy) Mogor
WWII, Army

Sidney was born December 15, 1921 and lived on a farm northeast of Saltcoats. He enlisted on December 1, 1942 in Regina, and shortly after was sent to Prince Albert for training. In 1943 he was sent to the Pacific coast for advanced training and was attached to the First Battalion of the Oxford Rifles. He was with this commando unit for the next three years. He spent a lot of time on ships and landing crafts. They landed on many different islands when the Japanese were in the Kiska area. During one landing, Sidney was hit with shrapnel and had to be taken out of th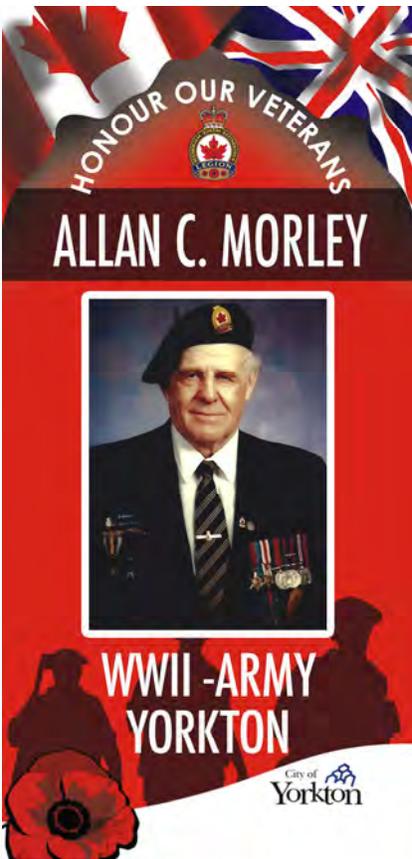e ranks. He was then sent on a vocational training course in Vancouver and spent the rest of the war as a cook. He was discharged December 19, 1945.

Honoured by his family

Allan C. Morley
WWII, Army

Private Allan Charles Morley was born May 14, 1924 in Mossbank SK. At the age of nine he showed outstanding marksmanship and was very proud to enlist in the Army when he was 17. After basic training he fulfilled his dreams of becoming a Paratrooper with the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion in 1944. Overseas he became a sniper and participated in Operation Overlord at Normandy and also served in Belgium, Netherlands and Germany. His battalion never failed to complete a mission and were the only Canadians to participate in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war ended, he met and married Edith Sthamann in 1950. They raised seven children and remained happily married for 63 years until his passing in 2014.

Honoured by the Morleys
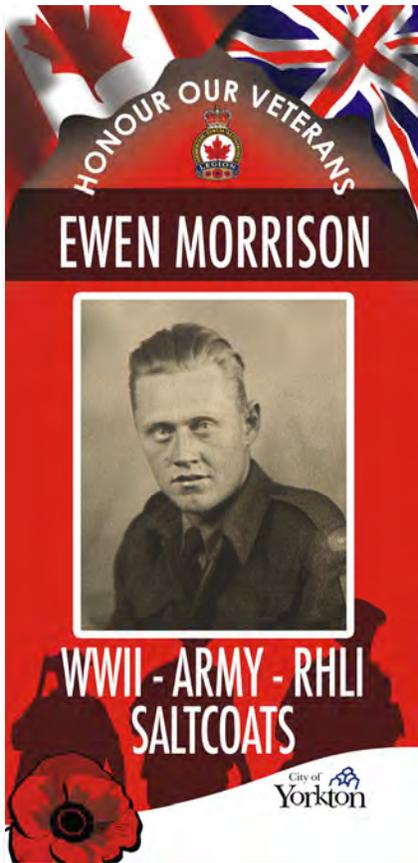
Ewen Morrison
WWII, Army

Ewen Morrison volunteered for service on January 20, 1943 in Regina. He served in Canada, the United Kingdom, and continental Europe with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (RHLI). Morrison landed on Juno Beach, D-Day + 30. He fought on the frontline as an infantry soldier and, as a trained scout, he went behind the lines to garner intelligence. Morrison fought in every battle with the RHLI, from France to Northern Germany, without an injury, something military historians have coined as "a sheer miracle". Morrison comes from a lineage of warriors; his Uncle Ewen, his namesake, was killed in the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917.
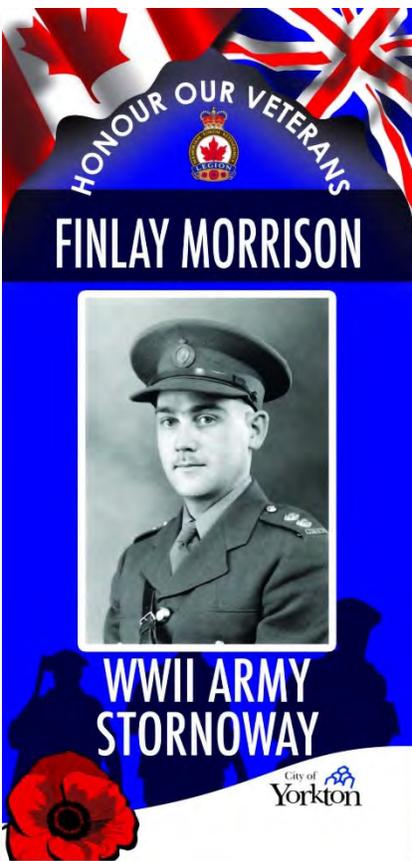
Honoured by his family

Finlay A. Morrison
WWII, Army

Dr. Finlay Angus Morrison was born in Stornoway SK on December 15, 1917 and attended the University of Saskatchewan, graduating in 1942 as a licensed pharmacist. In May 1942 Finlay joined the Canadian Army where he was commissioned as a Lieutenant. He served overseas with the South Saskatchewan Regiment as a platoon commander. In April of 1944 Finlay was appointed Aide de Camp to the Canadian Army Commander General H. D. G. Crerar. He served with the General in the NW Europe campaign where he was promoted to Captain. Finlay returned to Canada with the General in August 1945 and was the recipient of the MBE (Member of the British Empire). Finlay was also a member of the Canadian Military reserves and was the Commanding Officer from 1959 - 1963 of the Canadian Officers Training Corps UBC with a rank of Lt-Cpl (Reserve). Dr. Morrison died on December 28, 2017 at the age of 100.

Honoured by the Morrison family
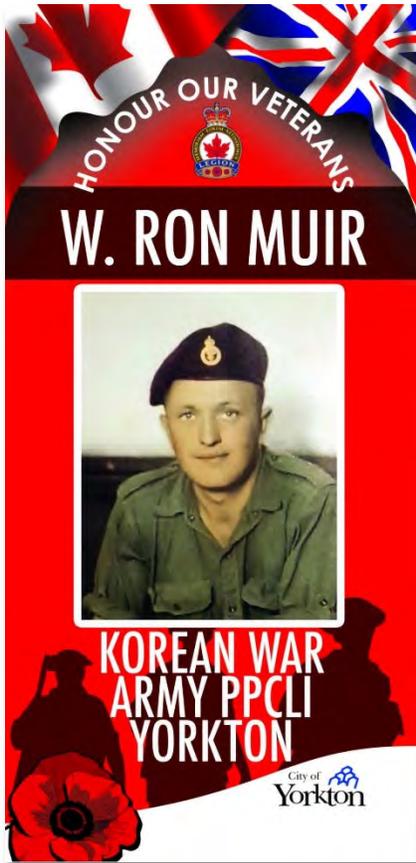
W. Ron Muir
Korean War, Army PPCLI

Ron was born January 9, 1928 and was raised on the family farm just west of Yorkton. He was one of five children of William and Jessie Muir and attended the Orkney school as a young man. He eventually joined the military and trained in Calgary as a paratrooper as part of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry. After his service in Korea he returned to Yorkton where he met and married Marjorie Shiner. They eventually settled in Calgary and raised six children. He passed away February 6, 1999.

Honoured by the Muir family
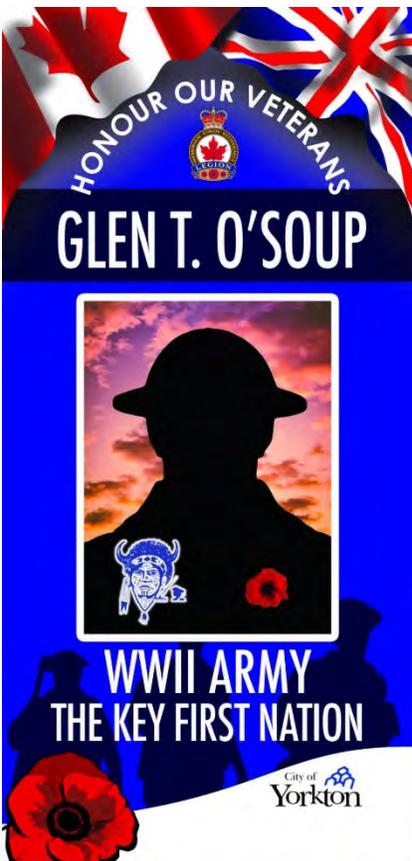
Glen T. O'Soup
WWII, Army

Glen Thomas O'Soup was born in 1927 on the Key First Nation. He was a World War II veteran who was a member of the Norquay Legion for many years. From 1962 to 1964 he served as chief of his reserve. Among other things he was a pipeliner, farmer and thoroughbred owner.

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council

Michael Palmer
NATO, Peacetime, RCEME Army Engineering

Sgt. Michael H.J. Palmer, CD, SSM, (son of Capt. Mitchell G.J. Palmer, CD, SSM) joined the military in 1980 after graduating from high school in Cudworth SK. After successful completion of all RCEME Fire Control Systems Technician training courses in CFB Cornwallis NS, CFB Kingston ON, CFB Borden ON and CFB Longue Pointe QC, he was posted to 1 RCHA in Lahr, Germany. The remain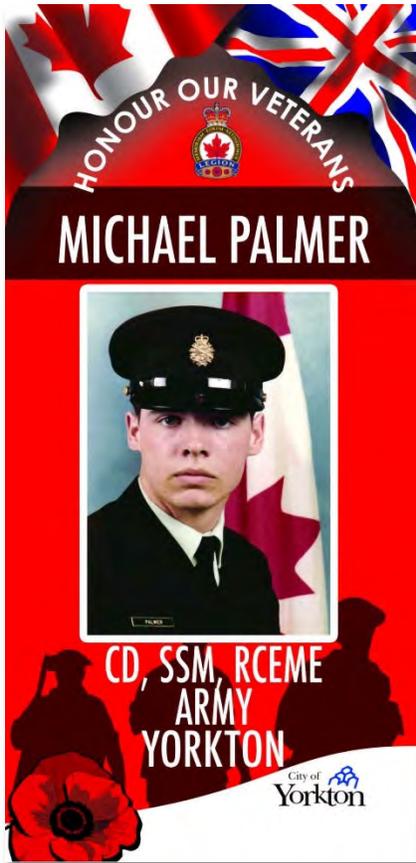der of his career was spent in various postings, taskings and courses across Canada, Germany, France and the USA. He was awarded the Canadian Decoration and the Special Service medal (NATO) prior to retirement in 1995.

Honoured by his family
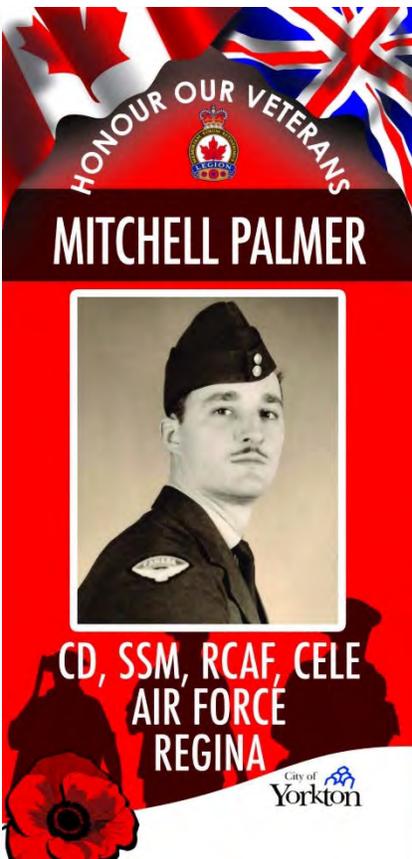
Mitchell G. J. Palmer
Peacetime, RCAF

Capt. Mitchell G. J. Palmer, CD, SSM, joined the RCAF in 1961. After completion of trades training for a Heavy Radar Tech in CFB St Jean PQ and CFS Clinton ON, he was posted to CFS Puntzi Mountain BC. Subsequent postings included CFS Yorkton SK, CFS Dana SK, CFS Mont Apica QC and CFS Sioux Lookout ON, where he also served as Search Master. He commissioned in 1980 as an Officer in the CELE Branch and was posted to CFS Beaverlodge AB, CFB Lahr, Germany, NDHQ Ottawa and CFB Kingston, where he retired as a Captain in 1993.

Honoured by his family
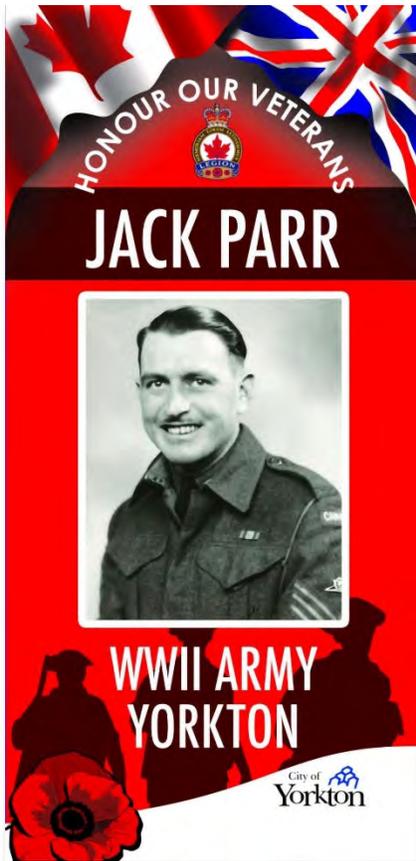
W.J.W. (Jack) Parr
WWII, Army

Jack Parr joined the army in 1940 and served in the 76 Field Battery RCA and the 17 Field Regiment RCA. Jack earned the rank of S/Sgt while serving in the United Kingdom, continental Europe, and central Mediterranean area. He was part of the liberating force of Netherlands and served our country until he was discharged in 1946.

Honoured by Ron and Susan Wrubell and family
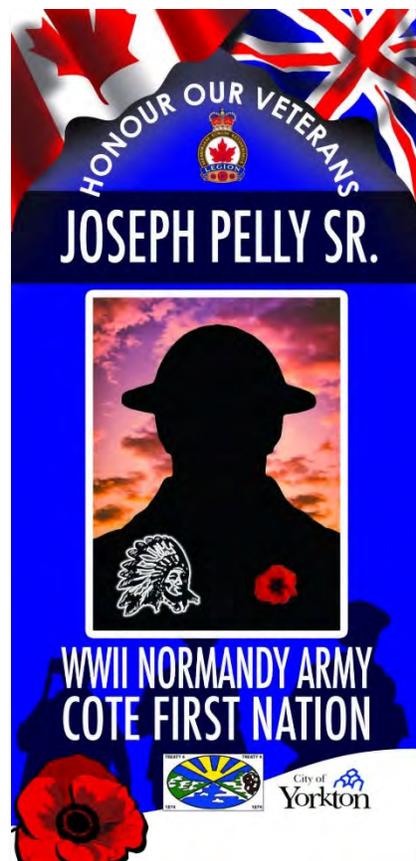
Joseph Pelly Sr.
WWII, Army

Joseph Pelly was a member of the Cote First Nation near Kamsack. He was an army marksman in Europe. "As with other Commonwealth armies, the Marksman in the Canadian Army is a shooting achievement recognized by a badge bearing the monarch's crown and crossed .303 Lee–Enfield No. 4, Mk I rifles."
–Wikipedia
"The First Nations, Métis and Inuit people of Canada have a long and proud tradition of military service to our country."
--Veterans.gc.ca

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
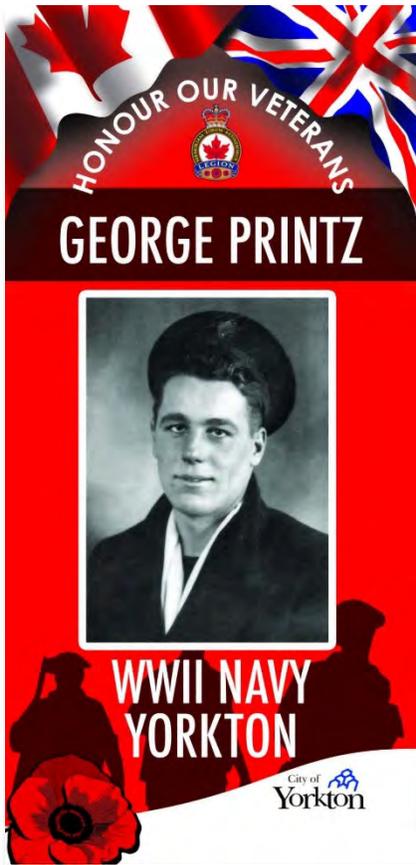
George W. Printz
WWII, Navy

George William Printz was born in 1925 at Melville SK, and later moved to Yorkton. George enlisted in the Navy on March 18, 1943, when he was 17 years old, following in his older brother Gordon's footsteps. He took his basic training in Regina SK and Esquimalt BC. He was deployed on the high seas on April 15, 1943, on various corvettes escorting ships across the Atlantic Ocean. These included the Huron and the Algoma based in Halifax NS. He was discharged in November 1945. Following his discharge, George spent several years as an officer for the Navy League in Yorkton. He was a proud Legion member in Yorkton until his passing in 1998.

Honoured by Mauri Ingham and his family
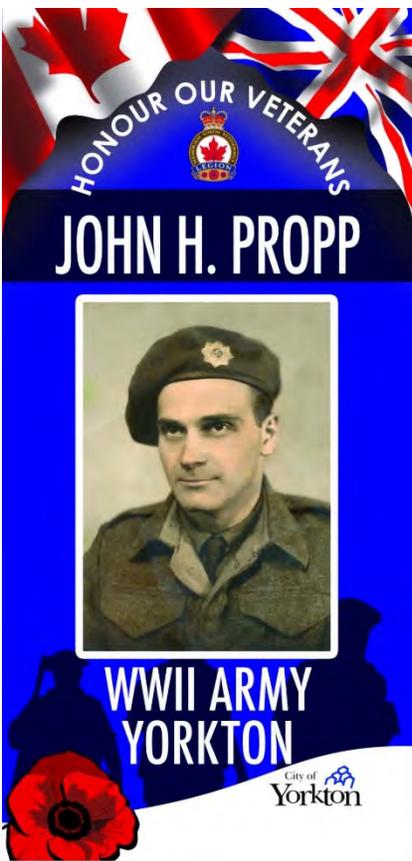
John Henry Propp
WWII, Army

John Henry Propp was born in Rhein SK in 1921. He received his education in Rhein, and later in Yorkton. John worked in the grocery business in Yorkton until he enlisted in the Armed Forces in 1942. John served as a wireless operator in the Lake Superior Regiment Reconnaissance Platoon in France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany. After the war, he was part of the army of occupation in Germany. Upon his discharge in 1946, John returned home to Yorkton and to the family grocery business. He married Ethel Graves in 1947, and they raised six children. John was a founding member of Midwest Packers and later the manager and owner of Propp's Foodateria in Yorkton. John had a life membership in the Royal Canadian Legion and was the bugler for the Colour Party for many years. He passed away in 2015.

Honoured by Bob and Deb Thompson and family
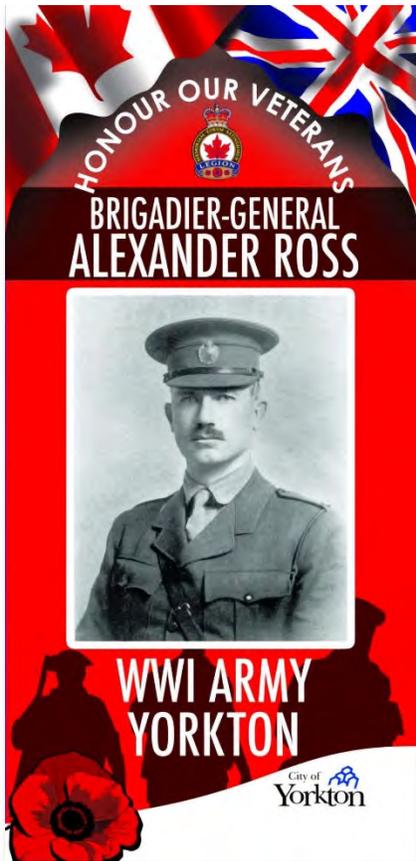
Brigadier-General Alexander Ross
WWI and WWII, Army

Alexander Ross was six years old when his family emmigrated from Scotland to Stilton SK. A pre-war militia member, he served as a recruiting officer in 1914. Once in France, Ross commanded the 28th Battalion (Northwest) from 1916 to 1918. After the war, Ross returned to the law profession, being appointed District Judge of Yorkton. He was also a prominent figure in the Royal Canadian Legion, serving as a Dominion President for four years and heading the Vimy Pilgrimage of 1936. He was awarded the King George V Jubilee Medal in 1935, and the King George VI medal in 1937. Ross was Honoree Colonel of the 53 Heavy Ack Ack Regiment RCA at Yorkton from 1946 to 1952. He also served as the Honoree Colonel of the Regina Rifle Regiment. Ross is perhaps best known for his statement concerning the Battle of Vimy Ridge, made in 1967 on the 50th Anniversary of the battle: "It was Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific on parade. I thought then, and I think today, that in those few minutes I witnessed the birth of a nation."

Honoured by the General Alexander Ross Yorkton Legion Branch #77
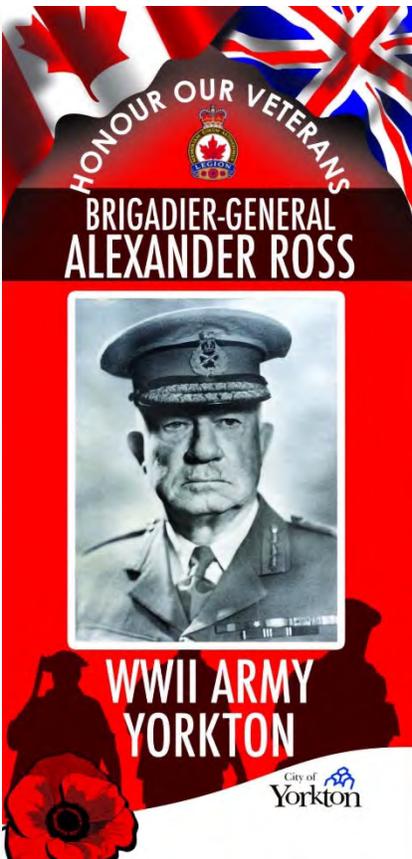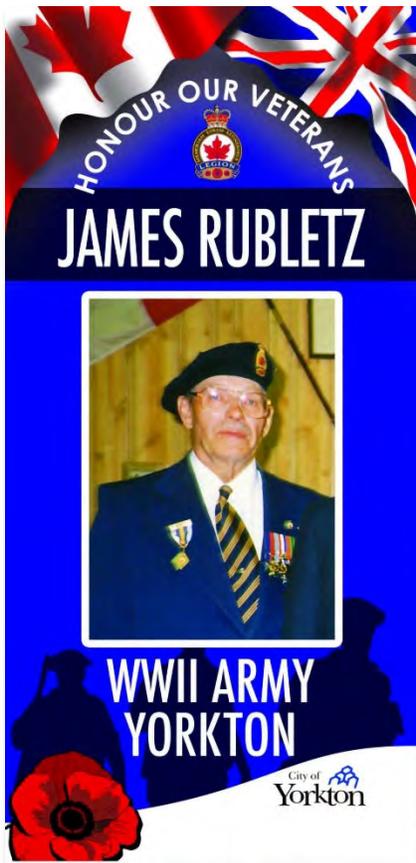
James Rubletz
WWII, Army

James Rubletz was born on February 28, 1921 in the Calder district of Saskatchewan. James was employed in the bush camps before he enlisted in the Army on October 16, 1942. He served overseas with the Royal Winnipeg Rifles during WWII and was part of the contingent in the invasion of France (D-Day). While he was serving overseas, James met and married Elizabeth Gordon of Glasgow, Scotland. James was an active member of the legion, serving on the Colour Party and various positions on the executive. He passed away June 22, 1997 at the age of 76.

Honoured by Connie Rubletz
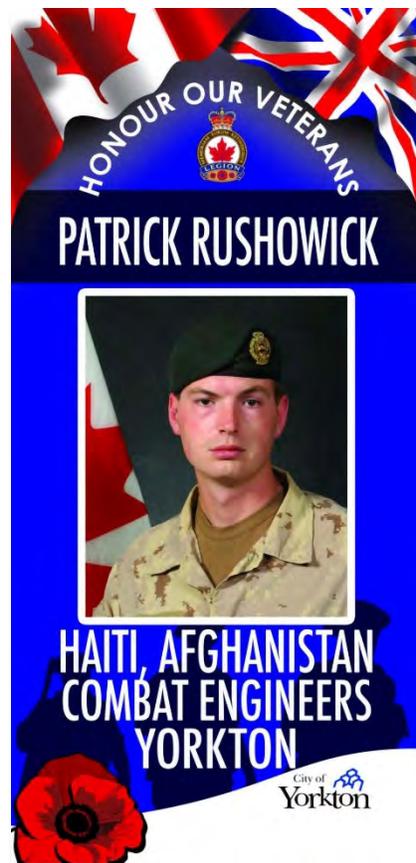
Patrick Rushowick
Afghanistan and Haiti, Combat Engineer

Patrick was born November 17, 1984. He attended French Immersion K-12 in the Yorkton public schools. At a very young age he wanted to be a soldier. Pat's paternal grandfather had been an engineer in the Canadian Army in WWII, and he wanted to be the same. Patrick was sworn in on June 12, 2003, and spent his first year at St-Jean-Sur-Richelieu. The next four years were spent as an Officer Cadet at Royal Military College at Kingston. He graduated with a degree in science, was promoted to Second Lieutenant and posted to CFB Gagetown. Here, as Pat put it, "I was trained to be an Officer of Engineers". Because he was fluent in French, he was posted to CFB Valcartier QC with the 5th Combat Engineer Regiment. During his time there, he was deployed to Haiti and then Afghanistan, and lastly to CFB Kingston. On June 11, 2013, he succumbed to PTSI, post-traumatic stress injury. He received the following medals: Canadian Sacrifice Medal, Afghanistan Medal and one service bar, Service Medal with Haiti Ribbon.

Honoured by the Rushowick family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
STEPHEN RUSHOWICK
WWII ROYAL CANADIAN ENGINEERS
CHATFIELD, MB
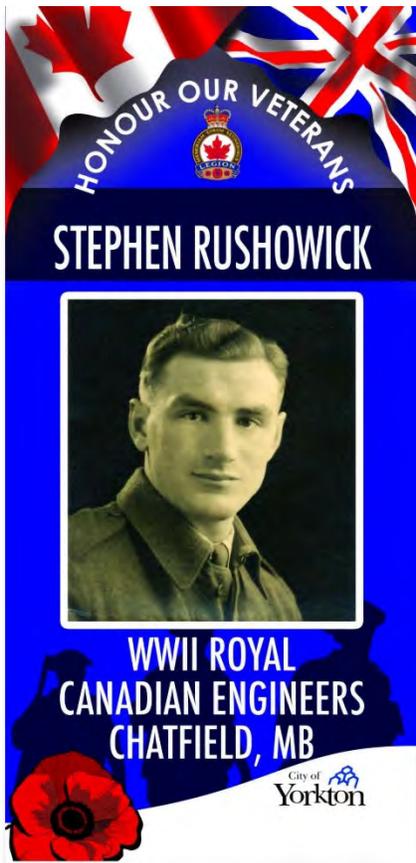
Stephen Rushowick
WWII, Royal Canadian Engineers

Stephen Rushowick (grandfather of Captain Patrick Rushowick) joined in 1942 at Winnipeg. After training at Dundurn SK and Esquimalt BC he went overseas to England. He served in France and Netherlands from the 12th day after D-Day, until the end of the war. Some of his tasks included mine-detecting in Normandy, France, directing tanks onto pontoon boats, and taking them to the other side of the Seine River. When in Netherlands where he did mostly reconstruction work, he stayed with Dutch families. He always shared his rat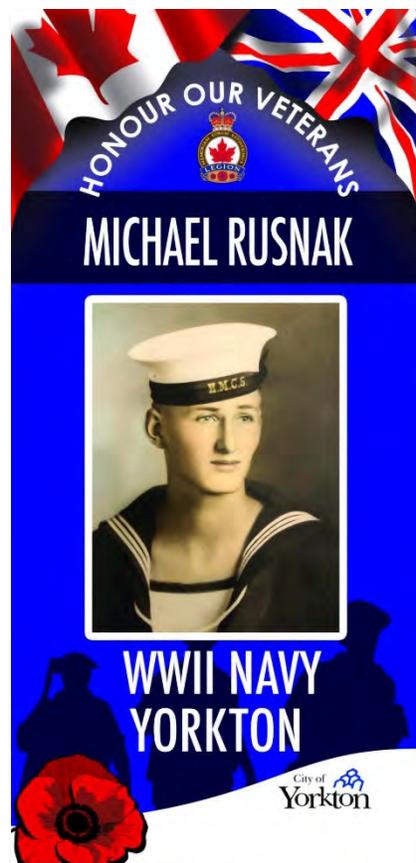ions with the family because the Dutch were starving. He returned to Canada in late 1945. He received the following medals: 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Overseas clasp, Defence Medal, War Medal.

Honoured by the Rushowick Family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
MICHAEL RUSNAK
WWII NAVY
YORKTON

Michael Rusnak
WWII, Navy

Michael was born on Oct. 23, 1925 on the family farm in the Insinger District. In 1940, he left home with $31 in his pocket and made his way to Winnipeg where he attended Winnipeg Tech. He received his diploma as a machinist and worked for one year in Fort Erie ON at a fleet aircraft factory as a lathe operator on Lancaster Aircraft landing cylinders. However, his greatest desire was to join the Navy. Michael joined the Navy in July 1941 and had his first postings in Freenock, Scotland. While overseas, Michael was stationed in Ireland (Belfast), England (Portsmouth) and St. John's NL. Michael was discharged from the Navy in 1945 and returned to farm near Insinger SK. Michael later began a 60-year career in insurance with Mutual Life of Canada.

Honoured by Doris Rusnak and family
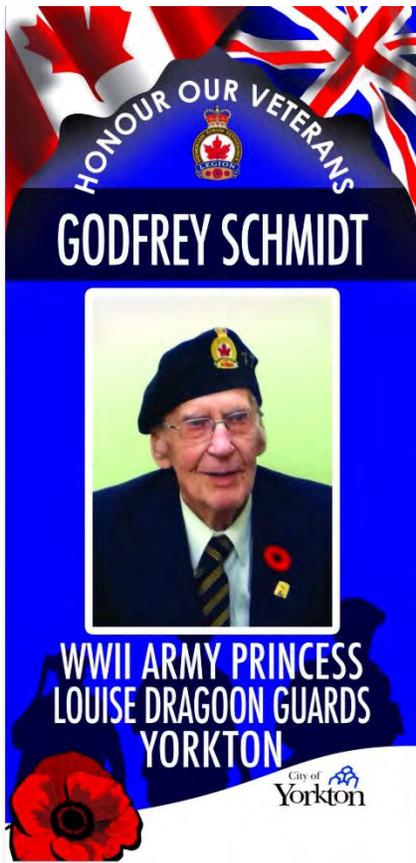
Godfrey Schmidt
WWII, Army, Princess Louise Dragoon Guards

Godfrey was born in Yorkton, the youngest of eight children. He attended Burke School and Yorkton Collegiate Institute. He entered the Armed Forces in July 1941, completed basic training in Maple Creek and advanced training in reconnaissance at Dundurn. Godfrey initially trained as and became head of the Bren gun carrier drivers. He then chose to take a course on operating motorcycles. In 1944, his outfit sailed from Halifax to France. Combat took him through France, Belgium, and Netherlands where he spent the last three months until V-Day. Godfrey drove motorcycles daily, visiting different squadron locations, and then reported back the intelligence he had gathered.

Honoured by Betty Schmidt and family
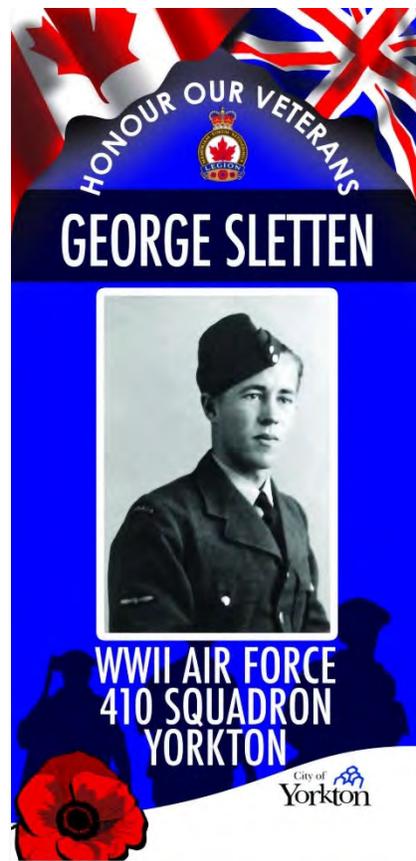
George Sletten
WWII, RCAF, 410 Squadron

George was born in Norway on October 29, 1922. In 1929 at the age of seven he moved to the Lintlaw area of Saskatchewan with his mother and three siblings. In April of 1941, George joined the Royal Canadian Air Force, and in November of that year he was sent over to England. George spent three and a half years overseas with the 410 squadron of the RCAF. After returning home to Saskatchewan he was married to Marie and lived in Bulyea and Regina for many years. In 1961 George bought Shepherd Adamson Agencies, and moved with his wife and four children to Yorkton. George was a long- time member of the Lions Club and the Yorkton Legion.

Honoured by his family
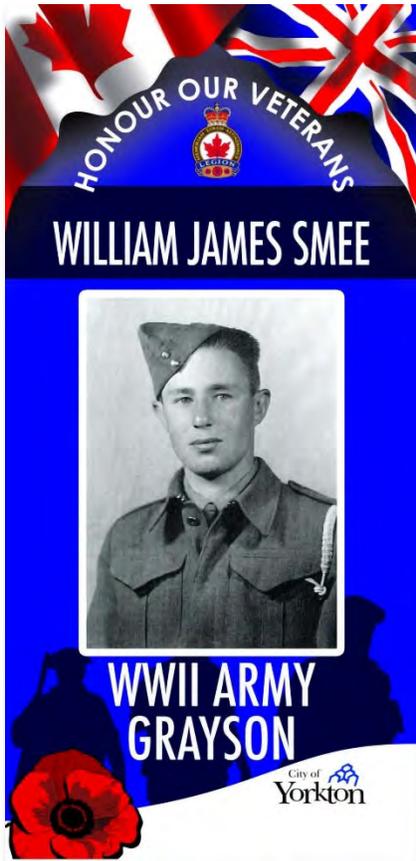
William James Smee
WWII, Army

William Smee was born on May 2, 1919. On Feb. 8, 1941 William joined the army in Regina, and went through basic training in Farhan, Quebec. William arrived in the United Kingdom in July 1941 and was assigned to the 8th Canadian Recce Regiment. Three years later he arrived in France and with his unit, fought in the area of Falaise. On August 22, he was wounded and sent to a military hospital. After five months, he was returned to his unit which was now in Netherlands. While in the area of Groningen, Netherlands, trying to clear a house of German soldiers, he was captured and taken prisoner. He was released to a military hospital about a month later and was able to return back to Regina in July 1945. He soon received an Honourable Discharge from the army, and eventually bought a farm in the Turtleford area where he remained a bachelor, dying in 1996 at the age of 77.
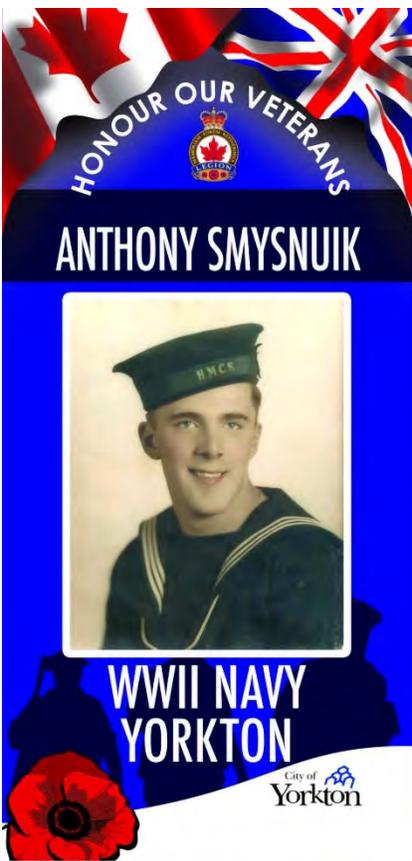
Honoured by the Smee family

Anthony Smysnuik
WWII, Navy

Anthony (Tony) Smysnuik was born October 14, 1922 in Ituna. In 1941, at the age of 18, Tony volunteered for service with the Royal Canadian Navy. He served for seven years. His commission included service on the Atlantic high seas during WWII and on a number of goodwill tours around South America after the war ended. Service medals received were the 1939 - 1945 Star, the France and Germany Star and clasp, the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and clasp, and the War Medal 1939 - 1945. Tony was discharged on August 4, 1948 at the rank of Leading Seaman. He passed away on December 5, 1992.

Honoured by the Smysnuik family
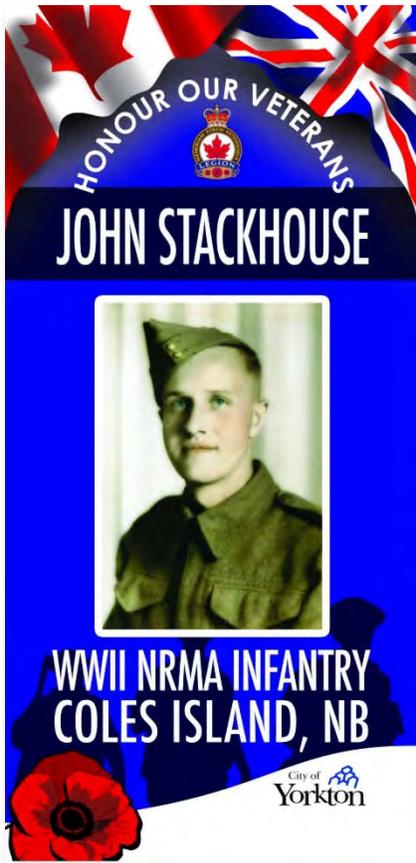
John H. V. Stackhouse
WWII, NRMA Infantry

Private John Hazen Vincent Stackhouse was born July 7, 1916 and passed in 1993. John enlisted at Fredericton NB on April 11, 1942. He then trained in Prince George, Vancouver, Camp Borden, Aldershot, Valcartier, and Halifax. As a member of the NRMA Infantry, John Stackhouse served overseas in Netherlands, Scotland, and England, as well as France and Germany. He was a very private man and did not talk about his military life after returning home. He lived the remainder of a peaceful life in Coles Island NB, near Sussex.

Honoured by Mike and Roy Stackhouse
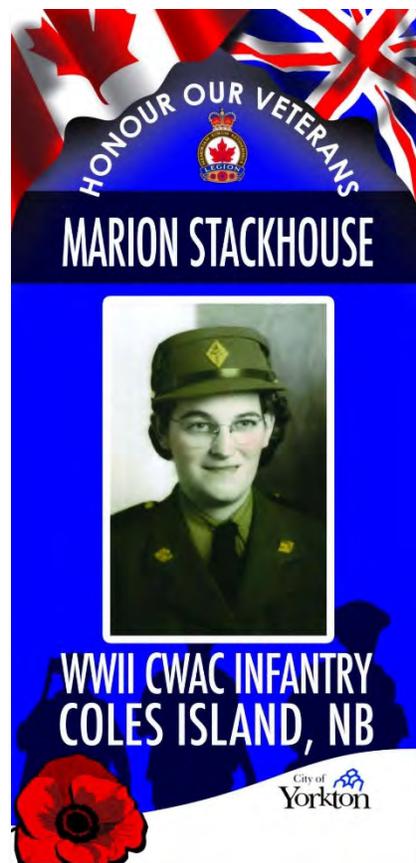
Marion Stackhouse
WWII, CWAC

Marion Elizabeth (Hanington) Stackhouse was born September 3, 1923 and passed away October 18, 2017. Marion was a member of CWAC, Canadian Women's Army Corps. She took her training in and was then stationed in Kitchener ON. In 1943 Marion was assigned to the Amherst Canada Car Plant, making and fitting parts for Avro Anson, a British twin-engine multi-role aircraft that was frequently used by the RCAF and other forces. She also worked in Ottawa for the Signals Department. After WWII she studied business at Oulton's Business College in Moncton. She was a life member of the Women's Missionary Society and the Royal Canadian Legion, Sussex Branch #20. She lived in Coles Island NB (near Sussex). Marion's husband and Private John Stackhouse were brothers.

Honoured by Mike and Roy Stackhouse
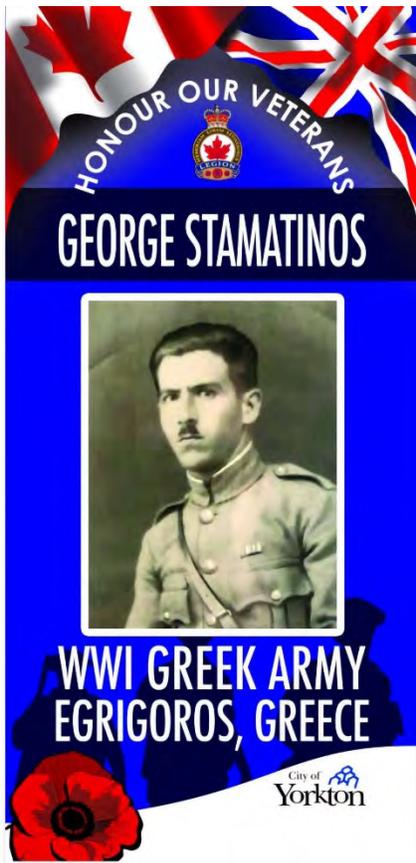
George Stamatinos
WWI, Greek Army

George was born in Greece in 1897 and was raised in the village of Egrigoros on the island of Chios. George fought for the Allies on the Bulgarian front during WWI and spent three years as a prisoner of war in Turkey. George was conscripted for nine years and was then excused from further service after the then Monarch of Greece asked him how long he had served his country and what his age was. After being honourably discharged, George returned to his village where he farmed with his wife and two sons. George's son Louis immigrated to Canada in 1960 and was followed by his brother Gus in 1962.

Honoured by Gus and Louis Stamatinos and their families
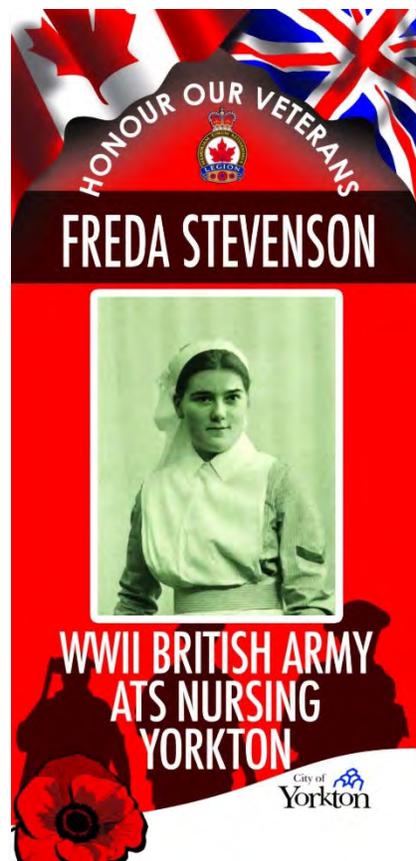
Freda P. Stevenson
WWII, British Army ATS Nursing

Freda P. Stevenson volunteered and served Great Britain as a nurse in the Women's Branch of the British Army, the Auxiliary Territorial Service which served essential non-combat roles. She was based in London, England, and served as a nurse caring for all Allied wounded troops. It is here she met and married Samuel W. Stevenson, coming to Canada as a British war bride on May 8, 1946. She was a brave, courageous and strong woman, mother and wife who was a staunch supporter of women's changing roles and rights in Canadian society. We shall remember her. Her name will live forevermore.

Honoured by the Stevenson family
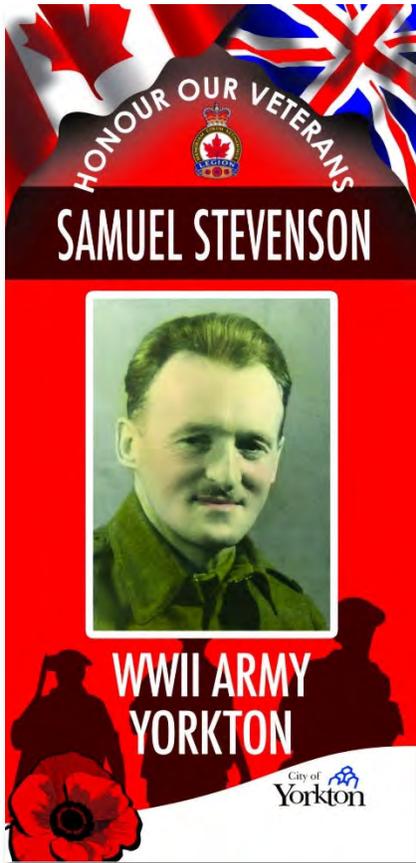
Samuel W. Stevenson
WWII, Army

Sam Stevenson was known as a man who had a song on his lips, loved people, life and his country. He volunteered with the Canadian Army 1st Yorkton Light AA on September 9, 1939 and gallantly served his country from 1939 to 1945 as a Lance Bombardier and Gunner. He served in the United Kingdom, Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany, receiving an honourable discharge on September 18, 1945. A true Canadian soldier, forever honoured and remembered by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His name, strength, courage, valour, and honour live on. We shall remember him. His name will live forevermore.

Honoured by the Stevenson family

Chub Tamblyn
WWII, Army MC

G.O. Chub Tamblyn was born in Watrous, moved to Unity and then to Yorkton in time to graduate from Yorkton Collegiate Institute. Chub was in the 6th Armoured (1st Hussars) during WWII. This later became the se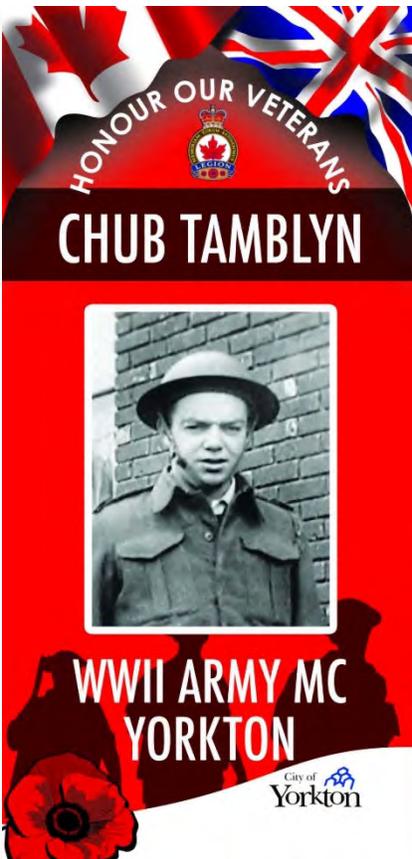nior regiment of the 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade. On April 13, 1945 the 6th Canadian Armoured Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Tamblyn, was supporting troops headed to Apeldoorn. His crew took out two enemy posts before their tank was hit and his crew injured. Lieutenant Tamblyn carried his crew to safety and then took over another tank to eliminate the third post. As a result of his "brave and inspired conduct" the troops were able to continue to Apeldoorn. Chub was awarded the Military Cross for his actions. Upon return to Yorkton, he and his wife Mary (Logan) raised their four sons. Chub lost his only brother, Hugh Tamblyn, in WWII. Hugh was an RAF fighter pilot.

Honoured by the Tamblyn family
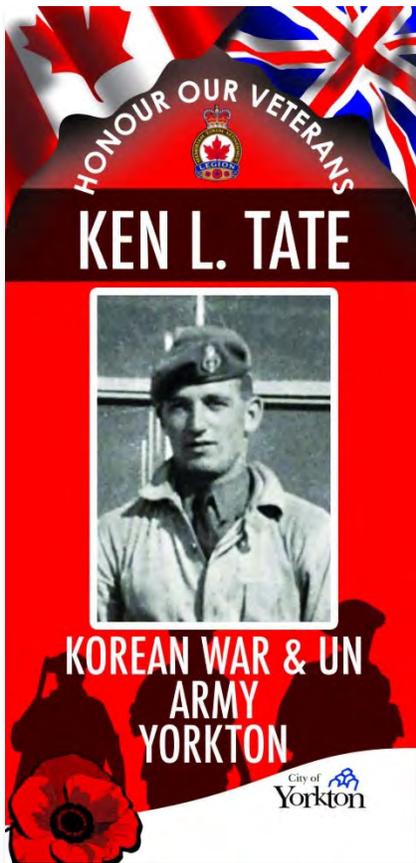
Kenneth Lawrence Tate
Korean War, Army

Ken was born in Vermilion AB on April 24, 1932. Ken and his siblings spent their youth living on several farms in eastern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan. He enlisted in Edmonton AB on December 4, 1951, and was deployed to Korea in June 1952 with the 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI), relieving the 2nd Battalion. Ken also served as a member of the Canadian peacekeeping force in Germany, where two of their three children were born. He was honorably discharged April 20, 1958. Ken and his family returned to Edmonton where he began a long career in the roofing industry, working as a manager for Otto Roofing in Edmonton and Calgary AB,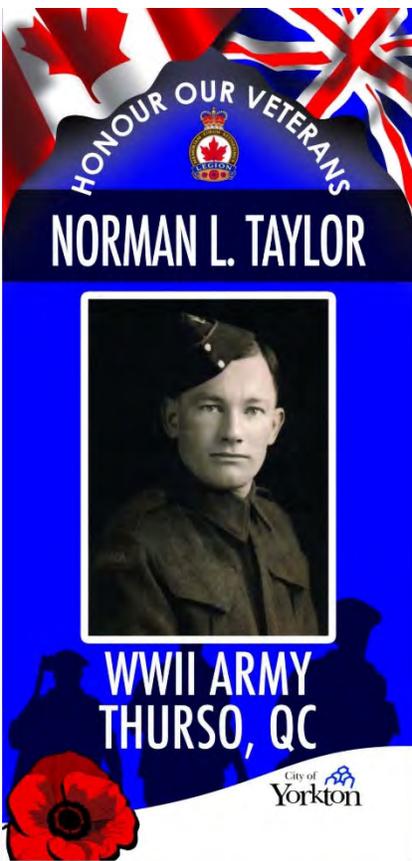 and with Clark Roofing in Regina and Yorkton SK. In 1981, Ken and Doreen moved to Creston BC, opening a roofing and construction company that he operated until his retirement in 1998. Ken died in January 2000 of cancer.

Honoured by the Tate family

Norman L. Taylor
WWII, Army

Norm was born in 1918 in the province of Quebec. His first attempt to enlist saw him rejected on medical grounds. In 1941 he was approved for army service in Canada only. Once enlisted, he talked his way into being sent to Europe. Norm served in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. For a period of time he was seconded to the New Zealand Army in the role of a driver and mechanic, as well as to teach truck driving. Following two years in England, he spent a year and a half in Italy as part of the allied army that began fighting northward before D-Day. He served his final months in Netherlands before returning home.

Honoured by Donna and Dave Buscis
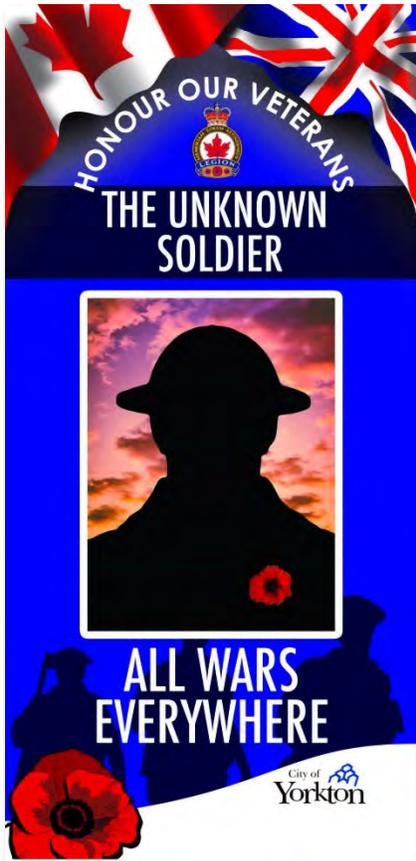
The Unknown Soldier
All Soldiers, All Wars Everywhere

The Unknown Soldier represents the approximately 116,000 Canadians who gave their lives for their country, including about 28,000 soldiers whose resting place is unknown, as well as all members of all branches of the Canadian Armed Forces who died or may die in all conflicts, past, present, and future.

Honoured by Debbie Sapara and The Yorkton Crossing
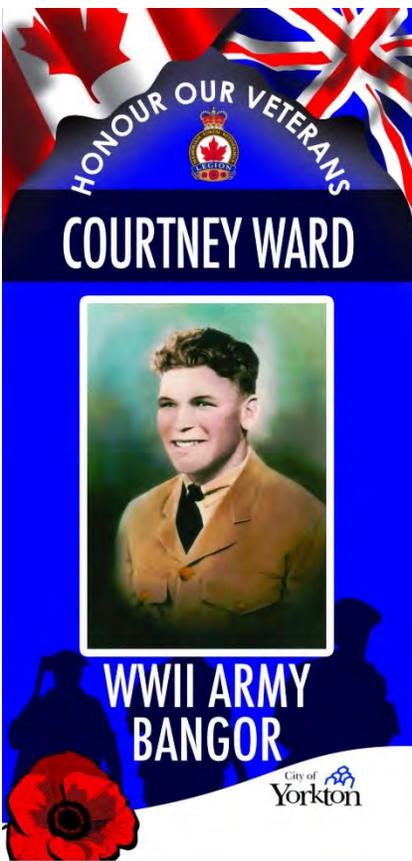
Courtney Ward
WWII, Army

Courtney Ward joined the army in 1943 in Calgary AB. He was transferred to the Regina Rifles Regiment and thus had the title of Rifleman Courtney Ward. Courtney was shipped overseas in the spring of 1944. On June 2 he left the UK for France where they landed on the coast on June 6, 1944. He was killed September 17, 1944 at Caen, France. He had a temporary grave near the area where he was killed but his remains were later moved to the Canadian Military Cemetery in Calais, France.

Honoured by his family
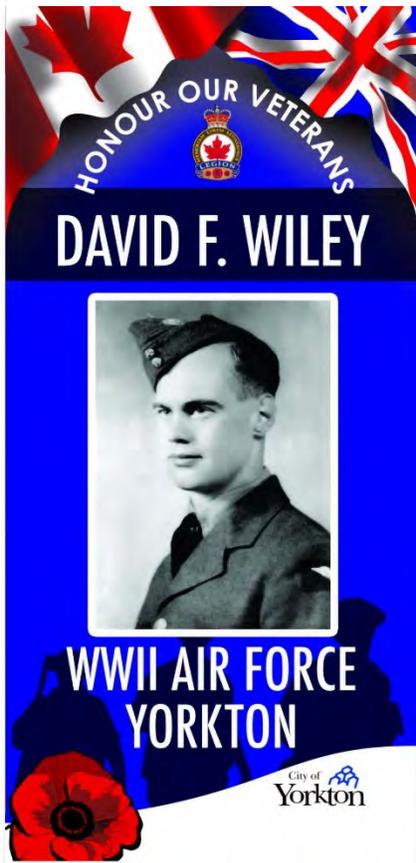
David F. Wiley
WWII, RCAF

David (Fran) was born September 19, 1918 in Saltcoats, the son of Andrew and Amanda Wiley. Fran enlisted during the onset of World War II in the Royal Canadian Air Force Bomber Command and served as an airframe mechanic. During his time overseas Fran saw hundreds of Lancasters leave the base every night for the missions over the English Channel and watched for them coming back in the morning. The returning crews were taken for breakfast, all the alcohol they wanted, and a few hours of sleep to ready them for another mission the same night. Many of his friends never made it back. After his discharge in 1945, Fran returned home and was hired as a mechanic at Mac's Garage in Yorkton. He married May Brown from Saltcoats on May 12, 1948 and raised four children. Fran pursued his education in the early 1970s and taught industrial arts for several years. He retired in 1983 and continued wood working, building and fixing, and enjoyed spending time at the Legion, especially on Saturdays. A longtime resident at York Lake, Fran passed away at home on August 9, 1989.

Honoured by his family

Harold R. Wilkinson
WWII, Army
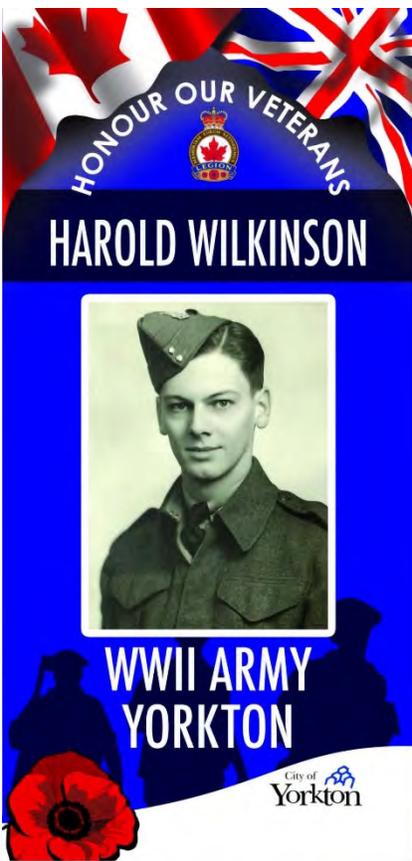
Harold Wilkinson was born in Inglewood ON on February 28, 1922. Harold joined the army (Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps Instrument Division) in 1942. He was trained in the use and maintenance of predictors and was stationed in Gander NL for the duration of the war. Following VE Day Harold returned to Toronto to be discharged and took advantage of the optional education benefit that was offered. He attended the College of Optometry in Toronto, where he received his Optometric Degree. Harold later completed his Doctorate from the University of Waterloo. He moved to Yorkton in 1950, where he was in practice for 43 years.

Honoured by his family
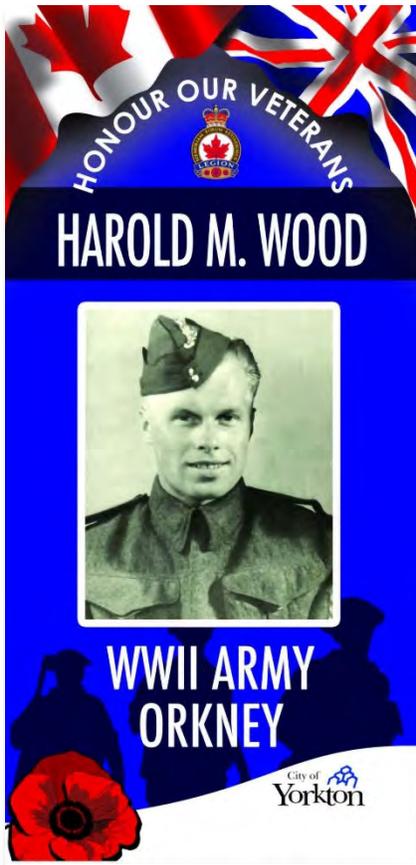
Harold M. Wood
WWII, Army

In the summers of 1939 and 1940, Harold went to the army camp at Dundurn. He joined the Canadian Army Active Force on December 30, 1940 and was sent to England. He served with the 7th Anti-Tank Regiment in the United Kingdom, North Africa, Sicily, Italy, and Northwest Europe. He was in Netherlands when the war ended. He returned home on December 31, 1945 and was assigned to Regina to meet the English war brides. He remained in active service as an instructor in Royal Canadian Artillery and was honorably discharged December 15, 1956.

Honoured by Ted and Nancy Wood and Jean and Dennis Bode
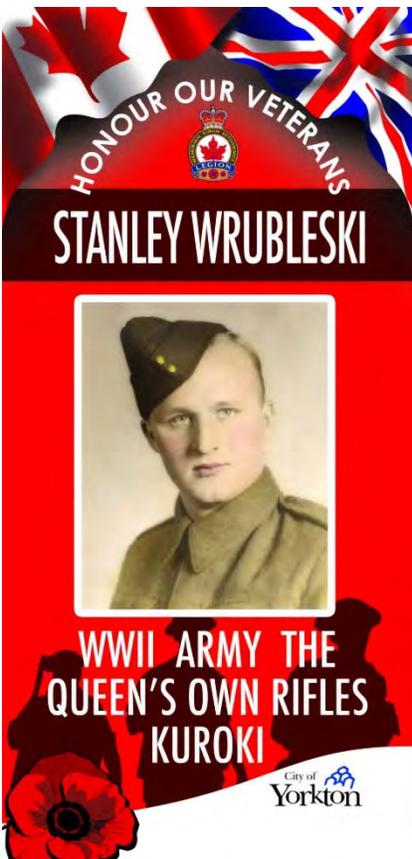
Stanley Wrubleski
WWII, Army

Stanley Michael Wrubleski was born on May 2, 1920 to Michael and Apolonia (Zgoda) Wrubleski in Wadena SK. He joined the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 1943 at the age of 23. He completed his term in 1945 when World War II ended. Upon his return home to Kuroki SK he married Arleta Provo and they had eight children. Stanley loved farming alongside his brothers for many years. He passed away on May 6, 1992, in Wadena SK.

Honoured by the Lozinski family
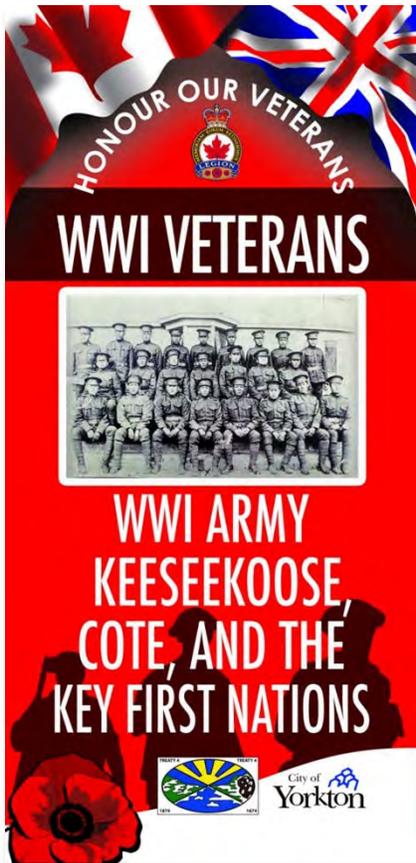
WWI Army Veterans from the Key, Cote and Keeseekoose First Nations

Back row: George Kakakaway, Graham Razor, Murphy McDonald, Francis Caldwell, Roy Whitehawk, Francis Favel, William Severight, Hamilton Razor, Henry Severight;
Middle row: Livingstone Cote, Major Cote, Robert Brass, Archie Cote, Andrew Shingoose, Michael Cadotte, Arthur Severight;
Front row: Malcolm Tourangeau, Allan Fiddler, Archie Cadotte, John Favell, William Henry Cadotte, Albert Brass, Edward Cote, Alex McDonald;
Missing from photo: Joseph Crowe, Donald Cote, Frank Cote Sr., Alfred Bryant, Henry S. Keshane.

Honoured by the Yorkton Tribal Council
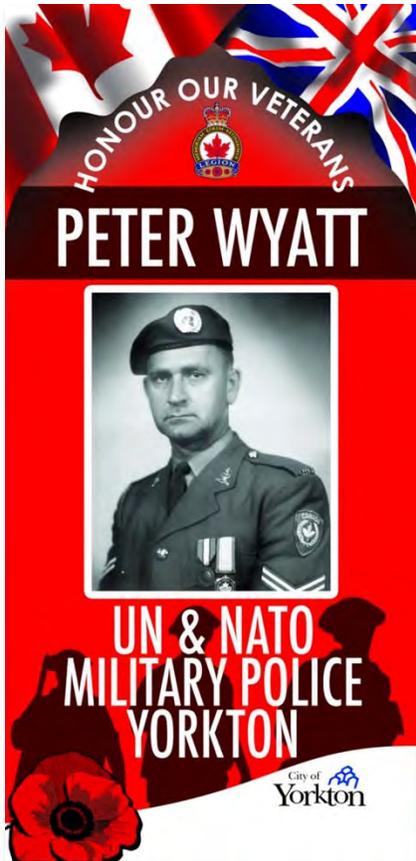
Peter Wyatt
United Nations and NATO, Military Police

Peter was born on June 4, 1932. He joined the military in 1958 as part of the Canadian Provost Corps. He served in Canada and Germany with NATO and Cyprus with the United Nations. Peter took his release from the military in 1972 and then moved to Yorkton to join the Militia 64 Field Battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery from 1976 to 1978. From 1979 to 1984, Peter served as the commanding officer of the local Sea Cadet Corps. He has been an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion General Alexander Ross Branch #77 from 1974 to present. During that time, he has served as Sergeant-at- Arms and President.

Honoured by the Wyatt family
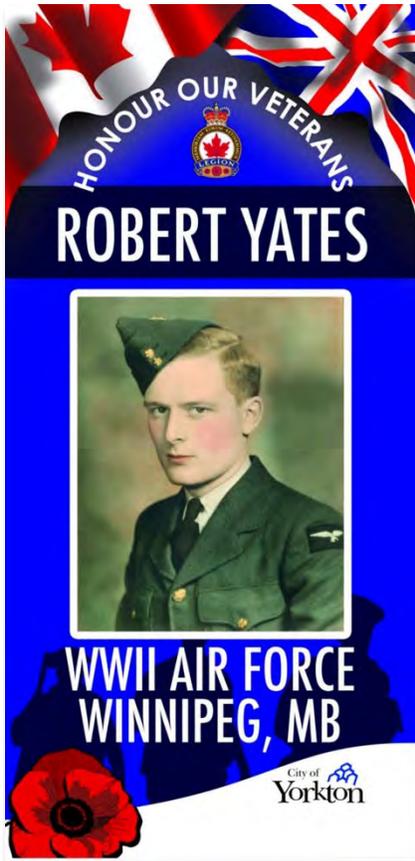
Robert Yates
WWII, RCAF

Robert Henry Yates was born in Winnipeg in 1916. In 1934 he began working for CNR as a carman. He joined the RCAF in 1940 as an Air Craftsman Second Class in St. Thomas ON. In time he became an instructor in Aircraft Hydraulics and remained there until the end of the war. He obtained the rank of Flight Sergeant. While in Ontario he met Edna Paul who was serving as a telephone operator for the RCAF. They were married while on leave in 1943. After the war Robert returned to the CNR, retiring in 1981. He died June 2, 1996.

Honoured by Kelly and Elyse Thomas
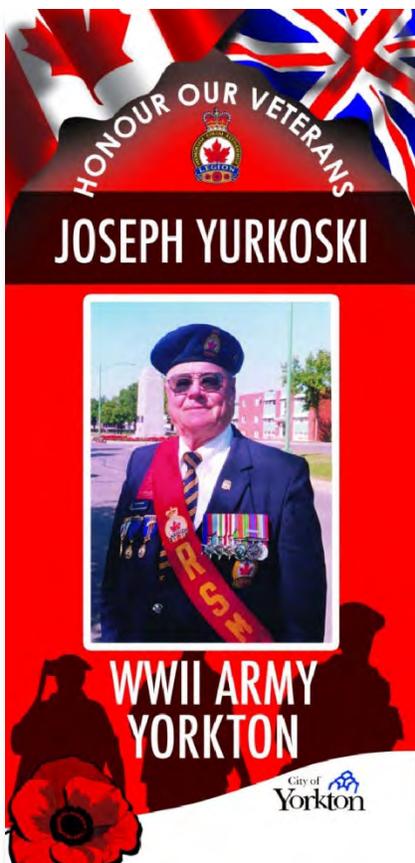
Joseph Yurkoski
WWII, Army

Joseph was born March 17, 1920 in Ebenezer SK, the son of a blacksmith, John and Nellie Yurkoski. He joined the 2nd Yorkton LAA Bty RCA on September 19, 1939 and then moved to Regina at the end of that month. He started training in Camp Shilo in May, 1940 and was sent to England in August 1940. There he served on the Bofors Guns during the blitz of London until June 1943. On June 6 he was transferred to No. 2 CIB W/S (Second Canadian infantry brigade workshop 1st division). Joe landed in Sicily on July 10, 1943 and then sailed to Italy in September. In March 1945 his unit was present in France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany, and he was promoted to Discipline Area staff sergeant. By October 1945 he returned to Canada, and was discharged in December. Joseph joined the General Alexander Ross Branch #77 in 1945 and was a very engaged, industrious, and honoured member who earned many awards and much recognition over the years.

Honoured by Joanne, Bonnie and Sharon

Index of Veterans - 2021

Clarence C. Andersen
WWII, Army

Clarence C. Andersen (1916 - 1998) was born near Dubuc, SK to Jens and Kristina Anderson. He enlisted in the army at the age of 25 in May of 1941. Stationed in England until early 1943, he was then sent to the front lines with a Canadian troop - the 3rd Regiment and the 5th Division, an armoured corps called the Governor General's Horse Guards (who nicknamed themselves the Go Get Hitler Gang). Clarence was a gunner in a Sherman Tank. He fought campaigns in Algiers (North Africa), Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium and Holland. Clarence was discharged in December 1945. His service decorations included the CVSM and clasp, 1939-45 Service Star, Italy Campaign Star, France/Germany Star, Canadian Services Defense medal, and King George medal. Clarence was a proud life member of the Dubuc Legion 277. After the war, Clarence married Irene Skene and raised a family of seven on a mixed farming operation outside Dubuc. He was a leader in his community.

Honoured by Clarence and Irene Andersen family
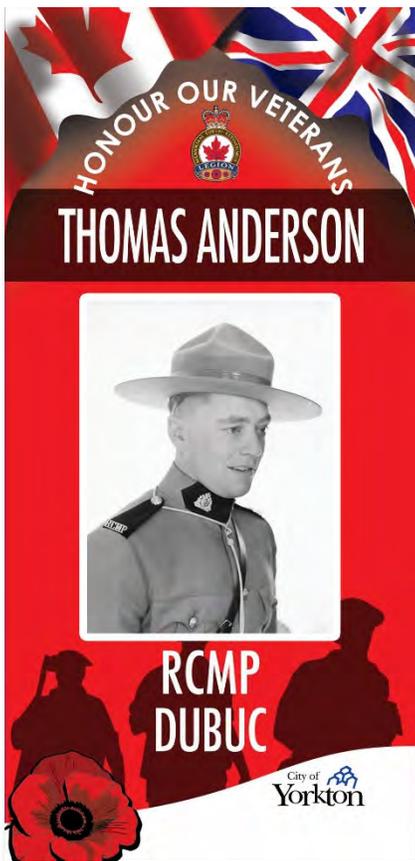
Thomas I. L. Anderson
RCMP

Thomas I. L. Anderson was born in August of 1920 in Dubuc, SK, to Jens and Kristina Anderson. Tommy joined the RCMP in July of 1941 and served until August of 1978, except for the period of December of 1946 through November of 1951 when he worked at Lethbridge Collieries. He was posted at Blairmore, Fort McLeod, and Lethbridge, Alberta; Fernie, Penticton, Prince Rupert, Chilliwack, Burnaby, and Vancouver, British Columbia. "Andy" began as constable and retired as Staff Sergeant Major. He married Mary Morrison in 1946 and they had two sons. Tom and Mary had many friends and loved to entertain. They loved a party even if it was just the two of them! Thomas died in February of 2012.

Honoured by Ross and Joan Anderson and family
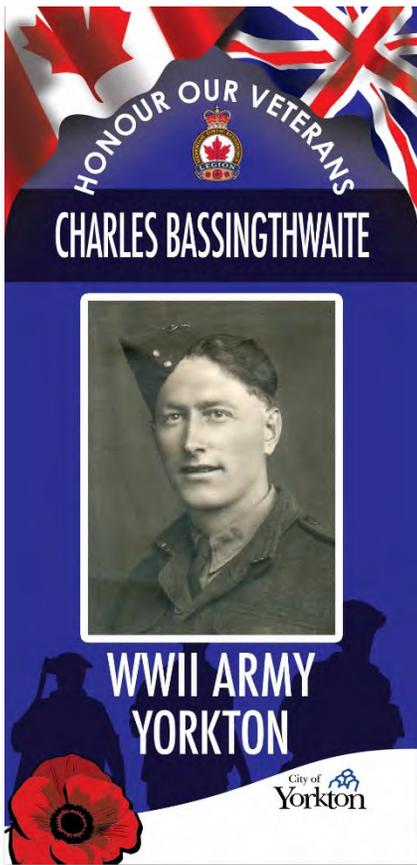
Charles S. Bassingthwaite
WWII, Army

Sergeant Charles S. Bassingwaite was born October 17, 1917, the son of Alfred and Emma. He was enlisted in the army from 1936 to 1946. Charles served in Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. When the war ended in 1945, Charles spent one year in occupation in Germany. Charles belonged to the 2nd Yorkton Light Anti-Aircraft Battery which was originally formed in Yorkton, SK. He met Phyllis Brown in England, and they married in 1945. She became an English war bride when they came back to Canada. They lived in Yorkton and had seven children. They were both very active in the General Alexander Ross Branch #77 Legion. Charles passed away in 1997.

Honoured by the Bassingthwaite family
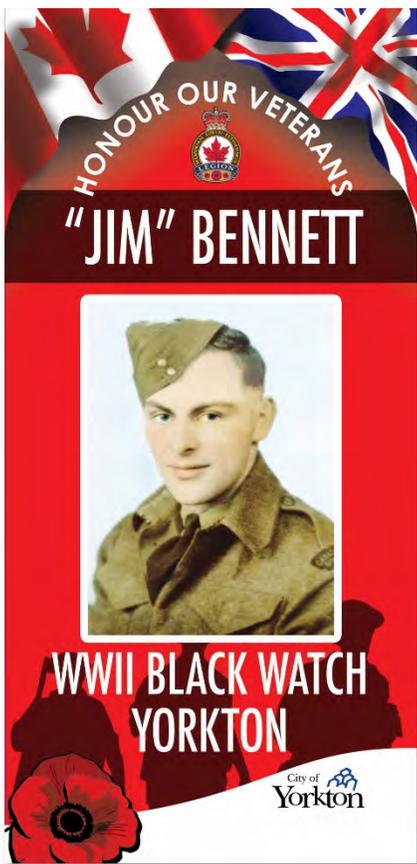
Bernard James "Jim" Bennett
WWII, Black Watch Snipers, Royal Highland Regiment

Jim was born in 1922 and grew up on a farm near Yorkton. He was a fuel dealer and eventually had a Petro Canada station in Flin Flon, MB. Jim retired with his wife, Eva Bennett (nee Hoppe) to Winnipeg, MB, and wintered in Sun City, Arizona, which they loved. When Eva died from cancer in 2003, Jim moved to Regina to be closer to family while continuing to enjoy winters in Arizona. Jim's life story was shaped by what he did in his youth. He enlisted in the army to fight in World War II and became a scout and sniper platoon member of what has been called "Canada's most storied Regiment - the Black Watch Battalion". In respect of the 70th anniversary of D-Day, Jim was presented with the rank of Chevalier/Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour for his WWII role in the liberation of France, beginning with the Juno beach amphibious landing on D-Day. His story, along with that of five other platoon members, has become a piece of Canadian history that will survive, due in part to a 2016 television docudrama, "Black Watch Snipers", produced by Yap Films and aired on History Channel. Jim was the last survivor of the war heroes highlighted in that docudrama, predeceased by Dale Sharpe, Jim "Hook" Wilkinson, Russell "Sandy" Sanderson, and Mike Brunner. Jim passed away in 2017 at the age of 94 and is interred in Yorkton Memorial Gardens.

Honoured by a generous donor
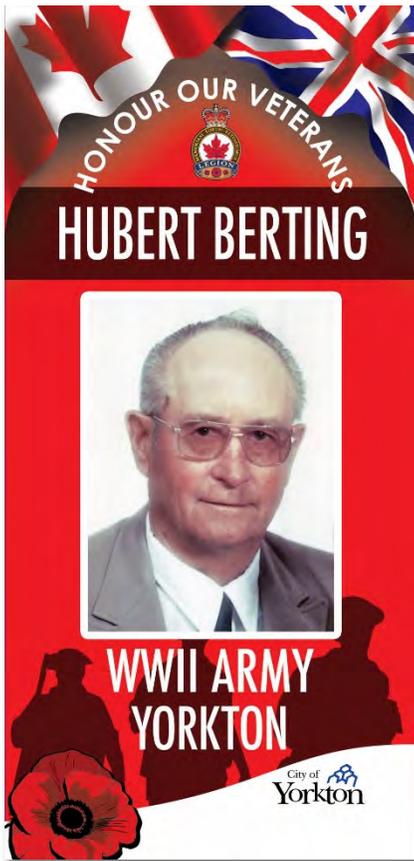
Hubert August Berting
WWII, Army

Hubert August Berting was born January 17, 1923, at St. Gregor, SK. As a young man, Hubert joined the army in 1944 and served with the First Canadian Airborne Division during World War II. Hubert participated in the Honour Guard at the signing of the Peace Treaty in Europe. He remained in the army for one more year. Following his discharge, he returned home and farmed near Horizon for ten years before moving to the Willowbrook and Beaverdale districts. Later, he was a professional truck driver until retirement. He was a member of the Yorkton Legion for many years, including serving in the Colour Party. Hubert passed away September 14, 2004.

Honoured by Hubert's family
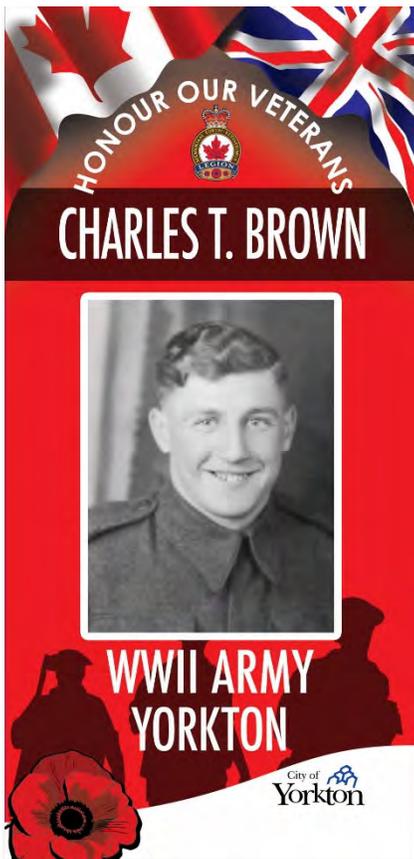
Charles T. Brown
WWII, Army

Lance Bombardier Charles Brown was born October 31, 1922, in Yorkton, SK. Charley enlisted with the 18th Battery of the Canadian Army in November of 1940. After basic training, he embarked to England in October of 1941. By July of 1944, he was in the 6th Field Regiment and headed for Germany. The daily rate of pay for Lance Bombardier in 1944 was $1.50 per day. "Chuck" was a real fighter with more than his share of courage. He was popular and a respected member of the gun crew, with which he faced much hard fighting. In November of 1944 he was sent to the Netherlands. We were a starving nation under the Germans before the Canadians came. We can never thank them enough. Charley was presumed dead on November 10, 1944, near Nijmegen, Holland. His body was never found. Charley's grave marker is in the Canadian War Cemetery at Groesbeek, Netherlands.

Honoured by his brother Fredrick N. Brown
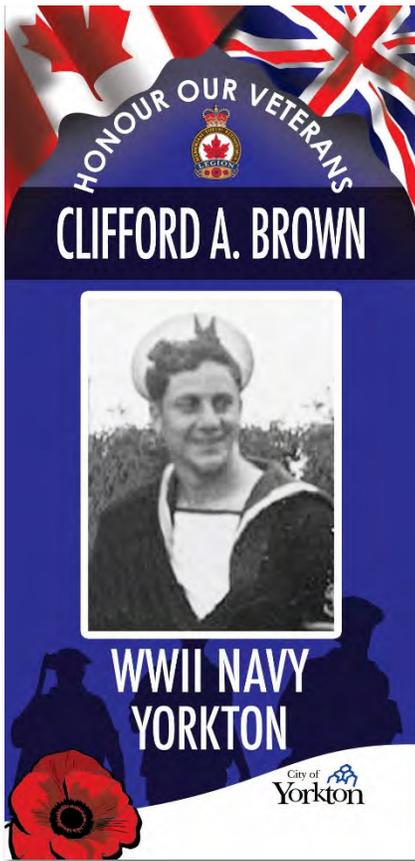
Clifford A. Brown
WWII, Navy

Clifford Alexander Brown was born in Indian Head, SK, on January 27, 1920. Several years later, the family moved to Yorkton. The Great Depression was at its peak and being the eldest of ten children, it was up to Cliff to bring home a paycheque after his father's death. The job of grocery boy was not enough, so he joined the Navy in 1939, at age 19. Little did he realize that two years later, he would be in the midst of WWII, crisscrossing the Atlantic aboard destroyers. He took his training in Esquimalt, British Columbia, and served as chief stoker on six different ships, including the Ottawa and the Cape Breton, based in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Cliff married Shirley Coleman of Yorkton in 1942. They had three children. He owned and operated Brown's Dental Lab in Yorkton until his retirement. In 1996, then Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, awarded the Russian commemorative medal in recognition of Cliff's service with the famous "Murmansk Run" convoys to Russia in 1944. In 1996, he attended a reunion for the recommissioning of the destroyer, HMCS Ottawa H60.

Honoured by Bruce and Elaine Brown
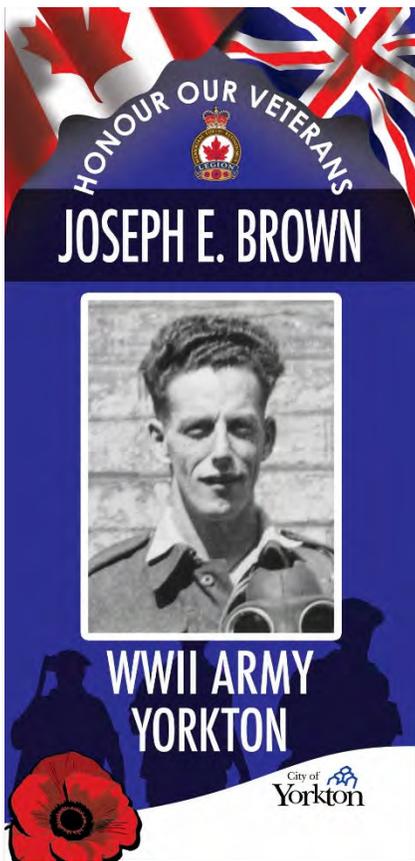
Joseph Earl Brown
WWII, Army

In October of 1939, Joseph "Earl" Brown, 18 years young, enlisted with the Regina Rifles. During the prerequisite six months service in Canada, Earl trained as an army vehicle mechanic. From 1940 to 1945, his regiment was deployed throughout England. In the spring of 1945, however, with the German Army in retreat, the Rifles saw action in Holland. By the time he was repatriated in 1946, J. E. "Red" Brown had attained the rank of Sergeant, married his English sweetheart Joan, and witnessed the birth of his son, Earl Charles. Dad rarely spoke of his service, brushing off queries or making light of his experiences. In an unguarded moment, he let slip a private part of his youth, stating, "Yup. They were the best years of my life, for me and lots of us Saskatchewan farm boys."

Honoured by his daughters Sandra, Darlene & Lori Brown
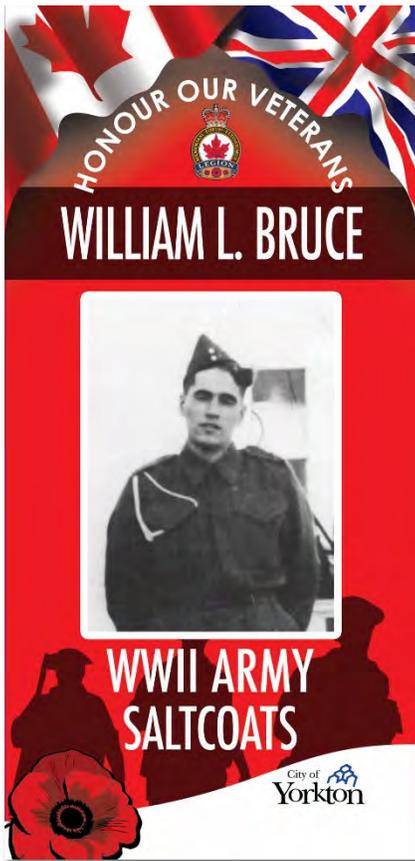
William (Len) Bruce
WWII, Army

William (1924 - 2004) was born April 9, 1924, in Saltcoats, SK. At age 17, he enlisted into the 64th Field Battery, R.C.A., #L59873, in Yorkton, SK. On October 18, 1941, he qualified in the trade of artillery signals. He started his training in Vancouver, BC, then carried on to the United Kingdom for additional training. He saw action in France, Germany, Holland, and Belgium. During the war, he was decorated with the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, 1939 - 1945 Star, France and Germany Stars, and Defence Medal. He returned home to Saltcoats on December 1, 1945, where he married Margaret Tulloch. They moved back to the family farm near Saltcoats where they raised four children: Samuel, Linda, Gail, and Terry.

Honoured by his family
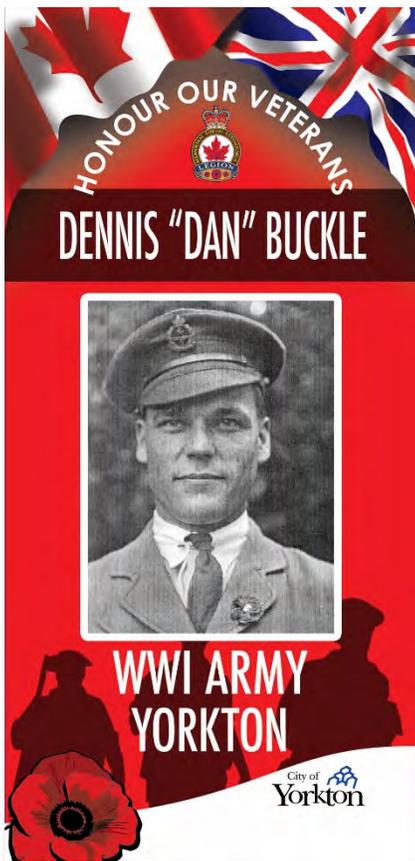
Dennis (Dan) Buckle
WWI, Army

On May 24, 1890, Dennis Buckle was born south of Yorkton, where he grew up on the family farm and attended the Pebble Lake School. His father and mother, Thomas and Katherine Buckle, had settled there after emigrating from England in 1887. At the age of 26, on May 19, 1916, he enlisted with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Forces. He accompanied the 5th Battalion to France, where he spent twenty and a half months in combat. He was discharged on March 27, 1919 and returned to Canada. While overseas, Private Dennis Buckle was part of the battle at Vimy Ridge. After being injured and recovering, he was part of numerous missions. He received the British War Medal and the Canadian Victory Medal for his courageous contributions to the war effort. After returning home, he farmed dairy and grain, six miles south of Yorkton. He was married on June 5, 1930, to Willa Thompson, and together they raised five children. Dennis served as councillor for the R. M. of Orkney for many years, was an Honorary Member of the Royal Canadian Legion, and a member of St. Andrew's United Church. Dennis passed away on December 21, 1977.

Honoured by his grandchildren
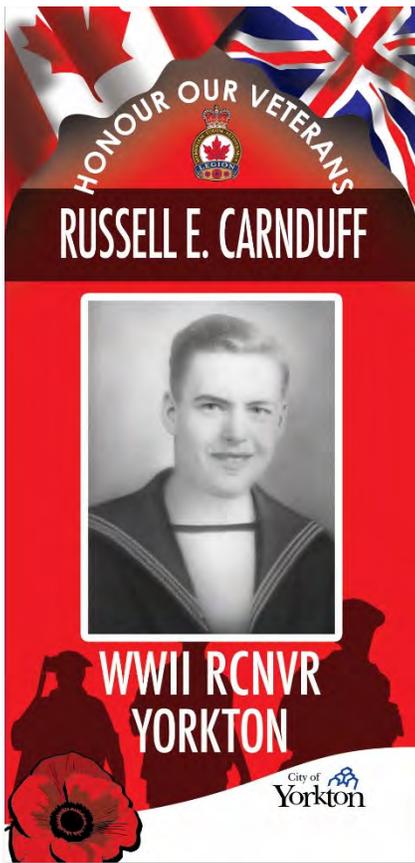
Russell Edward Carnduff
WWII, RCNVR, Navy DEMS

Russell was born in Carnduff, Saskatchewan, on May 9, 1925. Russell went to school at Saint John's College in Winnipeg, at age 15. At age 17, with his mother's permission, he joined the RCNVR at HMCS Queen Regina for basic training. He transferred to HMCS Cornwallis in Nova Scotia for Gunnery training and volunteered for DEMS. DEMS gunnery ships were responsible for protecting the fleet and steamed to every theatre of war. His first ship was the SS Yoho Park. They sailed to St. Pedro, California, and then on to New Zealand. On the return trip to Canada, Russell suffered a ruptured appendix so was left in Fiji for surgery. The Dominion Park arrived in Fiji sometime later, and Russell joined this ship. In 1945, he joined the SS Seacliff Park. They sailed through the Panama Canal to New York Harbour and joined a convoy of ninety-two ships for England. Russell's last ship was the Givenchy. He was discharged in Vancouver, in 1945, after being at sea for over a year. Russell returned to Saskatchewan to business ventures with his father. In the early 1950s, they built a successful Ford dealership in Yorkton. When Russell retired, he sold the business which remains in operation as Royal Ford. He married Shirley Wolfe in 1951, and they had two children, Brenda and Craig. Russell passed away December 13, 2015. He was 91 years old. He was a lifelong member of the Yorkton Legion.

Honoured by his family

William Edward Carnduff
WWI, Royal Canadian Navy

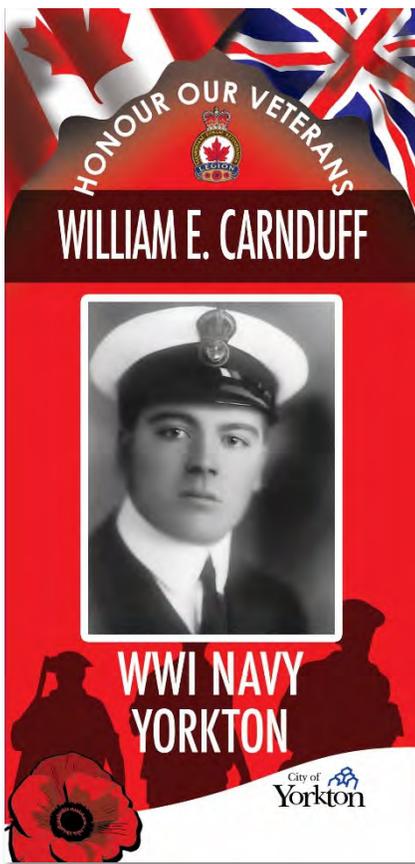Ed Carnduff was born April 25, 1896, to Richard and Henrietta Carnduff, in Carnduff, Saskatchewan. He was raised on the farm, and in 1916, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. Ed rose to the rank of Chief Petty Officer and served on the HMCS Niobe. The Niobe was in Halifax Harbour, December 6, 1917, when the Halifax Explosion occurred. A Norwegian steamship carrying supplies collided with a French steamship, the Mont-Blanc, which turned out to be carrying tons of munitions. The result was a huge explosion which killed nearly 2000 people, injured 9000, and flattened more than 1 square mile of the city of Halifax. Ed told the story of climbing the ladder to get above deck and being slowed by the men in front of him. This probably saved his life as the explosion happened at that moment. The Niobe sustained serious damage and many crew were killed. At the end of the war, in 1918, Ed returned to Carnduff and found employment buying grain. In 1921, he married Stella Wilson. They had five children: Ross, Russell, Doris, Betty and Audrey. In 1934, he moved his family to Nut Mountain where he built a grain elevator and started a garage. In 1949, Ed moved to Yorkton, and he and his son, Russell, established a successful Ford dealership. Ed was a Mason, a Shriner, and an active Legion member. He retired in 1978 and passed away in June of 1979.

Honoured by his family
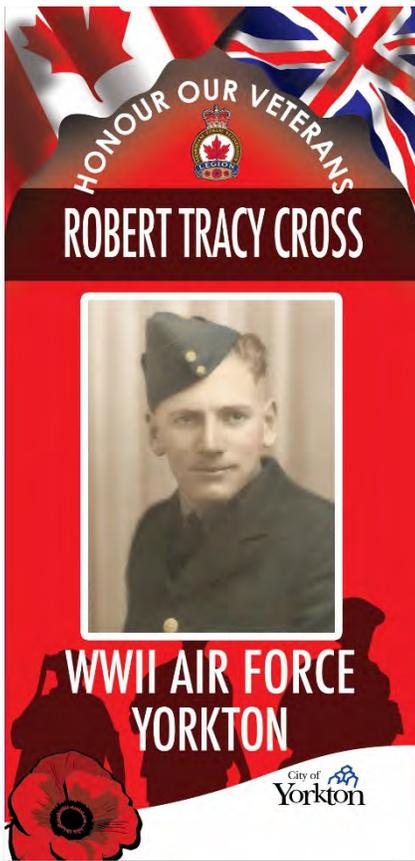
R. Tracy Cross
WWII, Air Force

Born in Yorkton in 1923, Robert Tracy Cross joined the Air Force at the age of 18. Tracy did mechanical training in Moose Jaw, Quebec and Ontario, before being posted in Yorkton, followed by England, Holland, and finally Germany. Tracy worked on many different aircraft including Cessna Cranes, Lancasters, Spitfires, and Austers. After WWII, he returned to Canada, working briefly in British Columbia before returning to Yorkton. He and his wife, Eve, owned a greenhouse/market garden, while Tracy worked at International Harvester as a partsman. After Eve's passing in 2015, Tracy moved to Maple Creek, SK, where he currently resides, still gardening at the age of 97.

Honoured by his children, Barbara Leson & Larry Cross
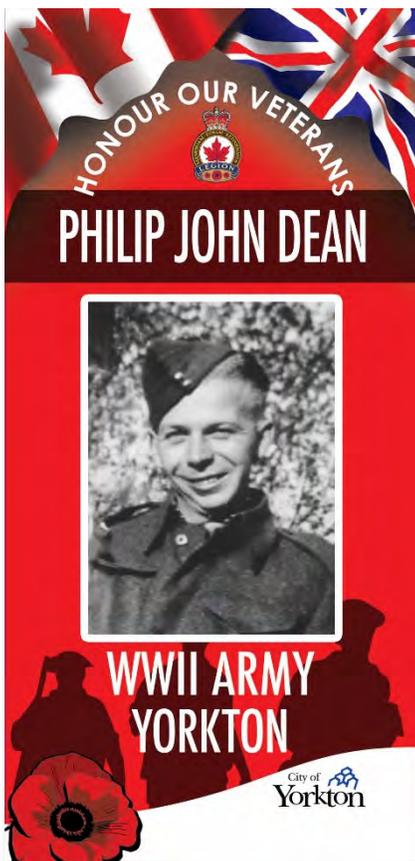
Philip John Dean
WWII, Army

Philip John Dean was born in 1917. He enlisted in the Army in the Royal Canadian Engineers division and served overseas from 1943 to 1946, on fronts in England, Belgium and Holland. After the war, Phil joined the Canadian Government Department of Agriculture as a Health of Animals Inspector and served in that capacity for thirty years, retiring in 1977. A citizen of Yorkton for over fifty years, he was a member of the Yorkton Lions Club (serving as its president in 1961), the Elks Club, and a Life Member of the Royal Canadian Legion General Alexander Ross Branch # 77. He and his wife, Marie, were blessed with two children: daughter, Dianne Holfeld, and son, Jim. To know Phil Dean was to be his friend. His generosity of spirit and his quick wit were legendary.

Honoured by the Dean family
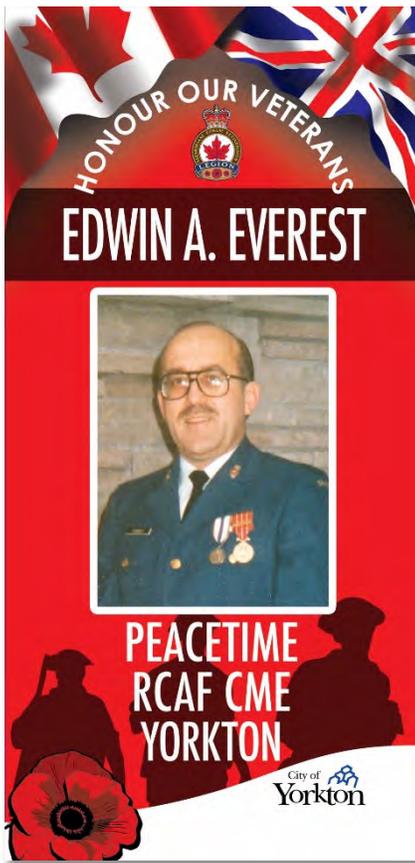
Edwin A. Everest
Peacetime, Air Force

Colonel Edwin A. Everest (CD MASc PEng) retired from the RCAF Canadian Military Engineers (CME) in 1992, after 35 years of peacetime service. Born and raised in Yorkton, Edwin's early military interest started as an air cadet in 17 Squadron, a gunner with 53 FD Regt, and an AC1 with Air Force Reserves in Saskatoon. RCAF selected him to attend Royal Military College Kingston where he graduated with his Civil Engineering degree with Honours and an RCAF commission as a Tech/CE officer. He received his Master of Applied Science from UBC. Subsequent CME postings and training were at bases across Canada and in staff positions at Air Command, Maritime Command and NDHQ. He commanded 1 Construction Engineering Unit in Winnipeg and is a graduate of the prestigious National Defence College in Kingston. A second career was pursued as Chief Engineer for the National Capital Commission in Ottawa for twelve years. Edwin was married to Gail Ellis in Yorkton, in 1964; they have three children.

Honoured by the E.A. Everest family
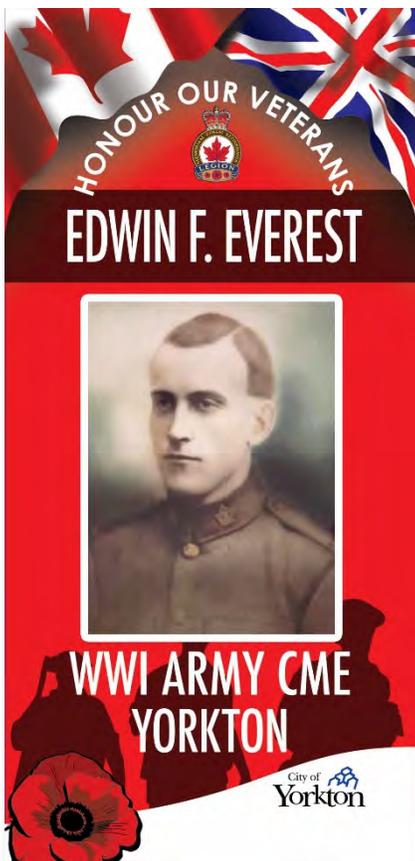
Edwin F. (Ned) Everest
WWI, Army Engineers

Edwin F. (Ned) Everest enlisted with the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles in Yorkton on December 30, 1914. Following basic training in Regina and concentration in Valcartier, Quebec, his unit departed for England on June 12, 1915, as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. There, he transferred to the Canadian Engineers as a signals tradesman. Shipped to the Western Front in France, in the Canadian Corps as part of the British Army, Sapper Everest saw action in Flanders, the Somme, Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele. He also had combat duty at Armentiere, Plegstreert, Arras and Amiens. Following the November 11, 1918 Armistice, Edwin remained with the occupation forces. Demobilized as an Acting Corporal on April 1, 1919, he returned to try homesteading near Beaverdale before becoming a warehouse foreman at Western Grocers until his retirement. Married to Anne (Hunder), they raised a family of five in Yorkton.

Honoured by the E. F. Everest family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
SAM GIBNEY
WWII ARMY
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
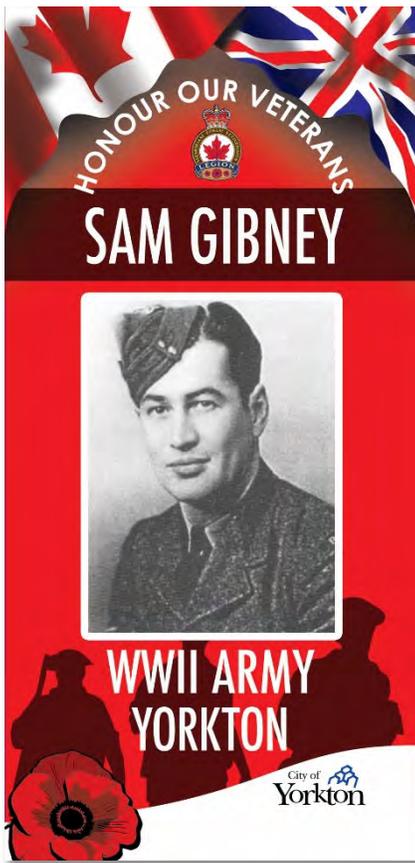
Samuel M. Gibney
WWII, Army

Samuel was born in 1913, in Yorkton, SK. On the outbreak of WWII, Sam enlisted in the Army. He served first with the 64th (Reserve) Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, from August 3, 1940, to May 31, 1942. On June 2, 1942, he enlisted for active service in the 84th Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, where he served until December 11, 1945, attaining the rank of Sergeant. He was on special duty to Kiska, in the Aleutian Islands from July of 1943 to January of 1944. Following the war, he was Staff Sergeant, 53rd HAA Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Yorkton, from April of 1948 to March of 1953. He and his wife, Rosalie (Glass), raised three children in Yorkton where he owned Gibney's Men's Wear for forty years. Sam was a life member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Deer Park Golf Club, and the Yorkton Curling Club, and a member of the Knights of Pythias, Masons, Elks, UCT/ACT, Lions and K40's. Sam passed away in 2001.

Honoured by his children Sandra, Jim & Susan

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
COLIN M. GRAHAM
WWII ARMY
SALTCOATS
City of Yorkton
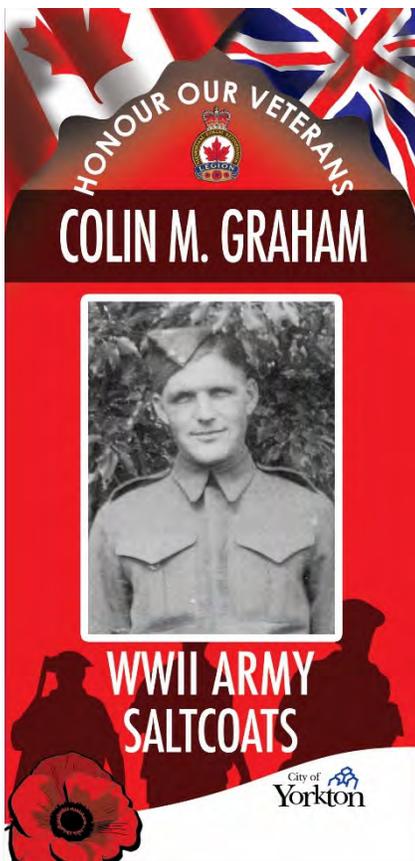
Colin Murdo Graham
WWII, Army

Private Colin Murdo Graham was born February 4, 1917, on the family farm near Barvis, SK, to John and Margaret Graham. He was the tenth of thirteen children. While working in Saskatoon, Colin, then 22, enlisted with the Saskatoon Light Infantry in 1939. His medals and decorations include the 1939 - 1945 Star, France and Germany Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp and War Medal, 1935 - 1945. During deployment in Italy, Colin contracted malaria and was hospitalized. Following honourable discharge at the end of the war, he returned to Canada. In 1946, Colin was united in marriage in Winnipeg, MB to Dorothy Morphy of Saltcoats, SK. They lived in various places in western Canada, and finally in Sudbury, ON, where Colin was employed as a correctional officer. It was there they were blessed with one daughter. Upon closure of the jail, they moved to Saltcoats, where Colin worked for the Town of Saltcoats, and then at the Western Development Museum in Yorkton. Colin died in Yorkton in 1988, at the age of 71.

Honoured by his family

BOER WAR, WWI ARMY
GOOD SPIRIT LAKE
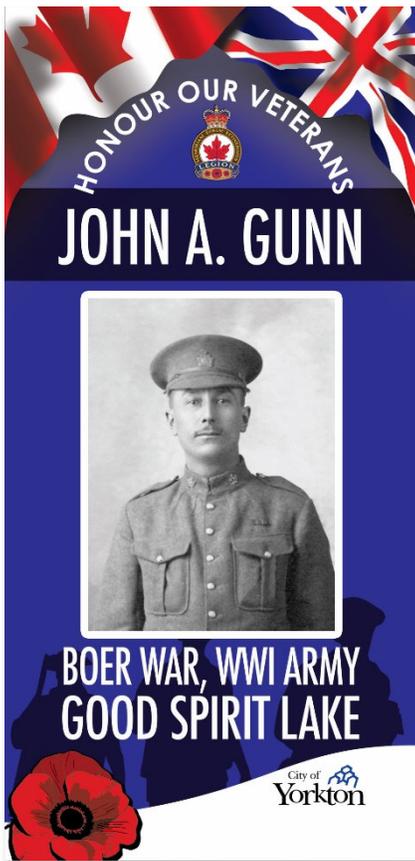
John Alexander Gunn
Boer War & WWI

Born on August 21, 1883, near Fort Qu'Appelle, John moved in 1887 to the south end of Good Spirit Lake where his father, Donald, ranched and ran a trading post. John Gunn, after attending Whitesand and Orkney Schools, John joined the militia in Yorkton, in 1902, and went to South Africa with the 5th CMRs. In 1914, he again joined up. Trained in Yorkton, Brandon and Camp Sewell with the 1st CMRs, he then saw front line duty before being taken POW on June 2, 1916, at the Battle of Sanctuary Wood. He spent the next seven months at hard labour before being hospitalized, first in Germany, and then, in December of 1917, interned in Switzerland for further medical treatment. Repatriated to England, he would eventually return to Yorkton in May of 1919. John would, after his army service, develop Gunn's Beach at the same location as his childhood home, help establish Black Poplar School, and from 1935 until his death in 1947, serve as postmaster of Spirit Lake Post Office located at Gunn's. Married in 1924 to Margaret Walker, they had one daughter, Joyce. During the 1920s, John attended the 16th Canadian Light Horse summer camps in Yorkton. He died August 12, 1947. He is buried in the Veteran's Plot in Yorkton.

Honoured by his daughter Joyce Anaka
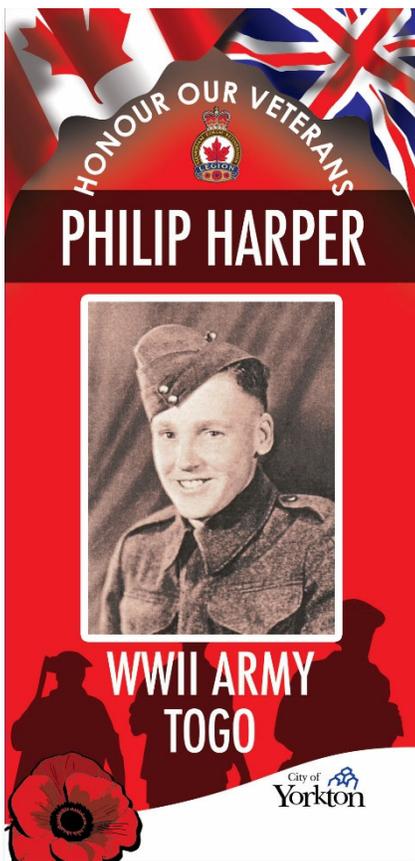
WWII ARMY
TOGO

Philip Harper
WWII, Army

Phillip Harper, youngest son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Harper, was born May 24, 1917, at Togo, SK. He had five older brothers and one sister. Phillip attended Mylor School and helped on the family farm until his enlistment at Regina in late 1942. Phillip served as a Private in the South Saskatchewan Regiment and was killed in action on August 28, 1944, at Foret de la Londe during the pursuit to the Seine. He is buried at the Bretteville-Sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Calvados, France. He has a geo-memorial location on Harper's Island, at Jan Lake, Manitoba.

Honoured by nephew Alvin Harper, and nieces Beth Barrowman, Valerie Mann, and Gwen Bilyk
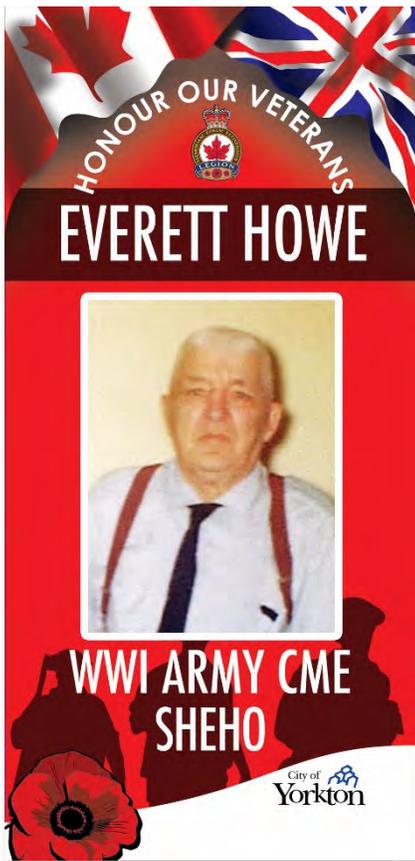
Everett W. Howe
WWI, Army

Everett was born in Belleville, Ontario, on December 13, 1889. Everett enlisted with the Canadian Engineers on June 13, 1918, from Hill City, Minnesota, at the age of 28 years. After some training, he was sent to England. The war soon ended, and he returned to Canada and was discharged in Winnipeg on June 24, 1919, with the rank of Sapper. He was awarded the Service Medal and the British War Medal. He worked for a while at the Barrel Factory in Hill City, Minnesota, before moving to a farm north of Sheho with his wife and family in 1921. He worked as a night watchman, drayman, and in his spare time, as a bartender at the hotel. In 1940, he started a mink ranch with the help of his six sons and continued until his retirement in 1966. Everett joined the Sheho Legion in 1950 and was an active member for 18 years. He died in 1968, at the age of 79.

Honoured by the Howe family
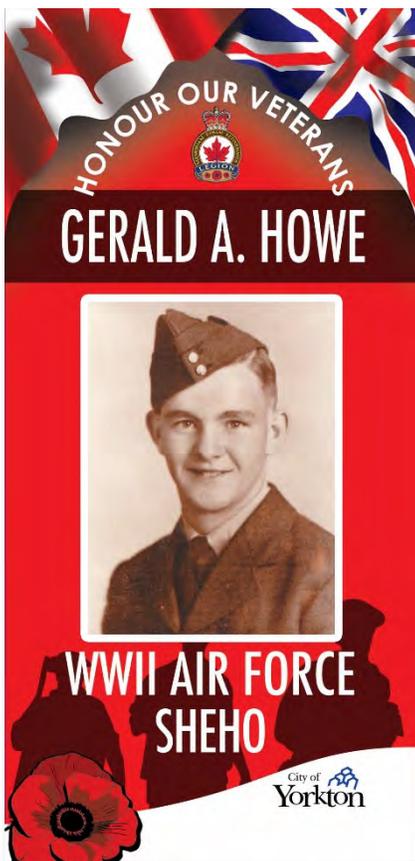
Gerald Arthur Howe
WWII, Air Force

On February 26, 1943, Gerald enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force as an aircraft mechanic. After basic training, he worked as an aircraft mechanic. He served in Canada until February 14, 1946, when he was discharged as Honourable Leading Aircraftsman. He was awarded the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and the War Medal 1939 - 1945. Upon discharge, Gerald, his wife, Leonore, and their three sons, lived northeast of Sheho where he continued farming, raising cattle and other animals, and grain farming. In 1959, he obtained employment with Wunder's Esso Service as a mechanic and worked there until 1972. A year later, he was employed as a watchman and sign man with a highway construction firm. He worked there until 1984, when he retired and returned to settle on the farm. He passed away February 19, 1988, at the age of 64 and nine days.

Honoured by the Howe family
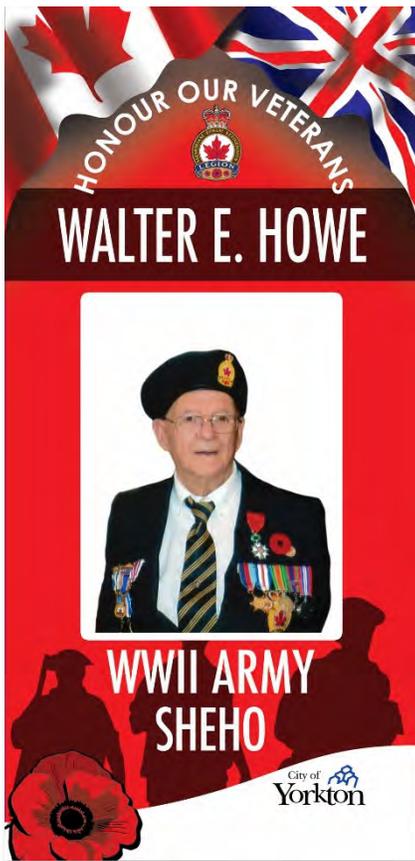
Walter Ernest Howe
WWII, RCASC Third Division

Walter was born in Clavet, Saskatchewan. At the age of six, he lost his mother and moved to Sheho, SK, to live with Mr. and Mrs. Alex Moir. While living there, he attended the Newburn School. On May 18, 1942, he enlisted into the R.C.A.S.C. Third Division. Walter had tried to join the year before, but had failed his eye exam. With the help of his brother, George, he memorized the eye exam chart and was accepted. In the fall of that year, he went overseas and received his fireman and regimental police training. On June 6, 1944, Walter landed on Juno Beach, participating in the second wave of the D-Day invasion. He went on to serve in England, France, Belgium and Holland. Before returning home, he married Aaltje Hendricks from Holland in 1945. On March 19, 1946, he was discharged as Private. When he returned home, he obtained farmland in the Gledhow District where he farmed until his retirement in 1980. Walter has five children: Jean, Rita, Ernest, Linda and Walter, Jr. Walter was a proud Canadian and a Life member of th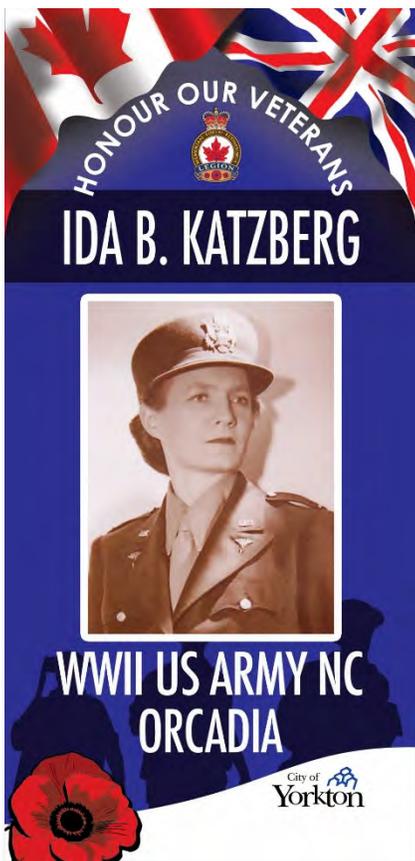e Royal Canadian Legion Branch #184. In 2014, he received the Knight of the National Order of the Legion Honour Medal commemorating his involvement in the Liberation of France in WWII. This is the highest honour France can award.

Honoured by his family

Ida Bertha Katzberg Gray
WWII, U.S. Army Nursing Corps

Ida Bertha Katzberg was born May 22, 1903, and was raised on the family farm near Orcadia, SK. Bertha completed her early schooling at Grunert School. After graduation from Success Business College, she became a nurse-in-training at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Yorkton and graduated as a Registered Nurse in 1924. After graduation, she worked in Winnipeg for a short period before returning to Yorkton as Operating Room Supervisor, Assistant Matron, and then was appointed Superintendent of Nursing in 1931. In 1937, she relocated to Traverse City, Michigan, accepting a similar position, and then went on to McAllen, Texas. On February 1, 1944, Bertha joined the U.S. Army Nursing Corps. Second Lieutenant Ida B. Katzberg served with the 71st Field Hospital in Bombay, India, and the Far East. After the war, she returned to McAllen to resume her nursing career as Superintendent in charge of City Hospital. On December 1, 1950, Bertha married William Newman Gray II. They made their home in San Francisco, California. At the age of 58, Bertha passed away on September 24, 1961, a victim of cancer.

Honoured by Ferne Katzberg
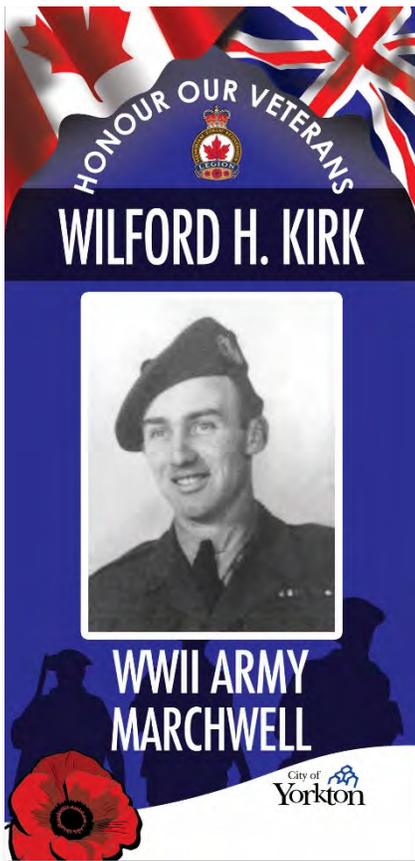
Wilford H. Kirk
WWII, Army

Wilford grew up on the farm south of Marchwell, SK, and took his schooling at a country school in the Ingleside district. After grade eight, he quit school and helped on the farm. In June of 1942, he joined the army in Regina and was then transferred to Vernon, BC, for basic training. In September, Wilford was sent for overseas duty. When he arrived in England, he joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, 6th Brigade 2nd Division. After many months of hard training, it was time to take part in the real war. His first real taste was on Carpiquet airfield when the German bombers dropped bombs on them. He was a front-line soldier to the Rhine River in Germany and was then sent back to Ghent in Belgium as an instructor for the new recruits that were arriving from Canada. Wilf was hit four times, but only once bad enough to receive a wound stripe. He was in Ghent when the war in Europe finished. He then rejoined the Q.O.C.H. and was the Regimental police sergeant when they returned back to Canada. Mr. Kirk was awarded the highest Dutch decoration by Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands in 1945 for his leadership in the battle for the freeing of the Scheldt estuary. He was discharged from the army on January 12, 1946. In December of 1947, he returned to England on The Empress of Canada, and was married April 5, 1948. He returned to Canada in June of that year, leaving his wife in England. He then began building a new home. His wife joined him in 1950, and they had two wonderful boys. They had many wonderful holidays together, until he lost his wife in 1995. He left the farm and is now living in Langenburg.

Honoured by Trevor and Coleen Kirk
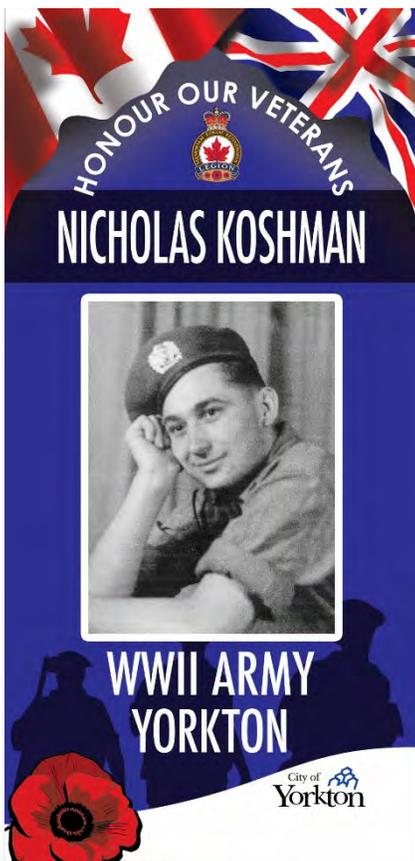
Nicholas (Nick) Koshman
WWII, Army

Private Nicholas (Nick) Koshman was born December 20, 1922, two miles south of Canora, SK. He was the third son of John & Marie (Demchuk) Koshman. He grew up working on the family farm near Ebenezer, with his two brothers and two sisters. He enlisted in the Canadian Army on January 29, 1943, serving with the Prince of Wales Rangers Unit. On the West Coast, he received his basic training, went to Terrace, BC, for his advanced training, and then on to Yoho Valley for his combat training. In 1944, he was sent to Germany, where he served on the front lines until D-Day. Following this, he returned to Aldershot, England, where he was assigned to guard prisoners of war. He was honourably discharged on March 22, 1946. He was awarded the war medal and the France and Germany Star. He was very proud of the service that he gave to his country. Upon returning home, he met the love of his life, Margaret Tesluk, and married her on October 3, 1951. They were happily married just shy of their 67th wedding anniversary and had two children (Linda-Ann & Glen). They later moved from Hampton, SK, to Yorkton, where he was hired on as an orderly at the Yorkton Regional Hospital. He then transferred to the maintenance department in the hospital where he worked until retirement. He was an extremely proud Legion member and was an honorary life member of the General Alexander Ross Legion Yorkton Branch #77. He proudly carried the Canadian Flag as part of the Colour Party for 16 years. He died August 29, 2018, at the age of 95.

Honoured by his family
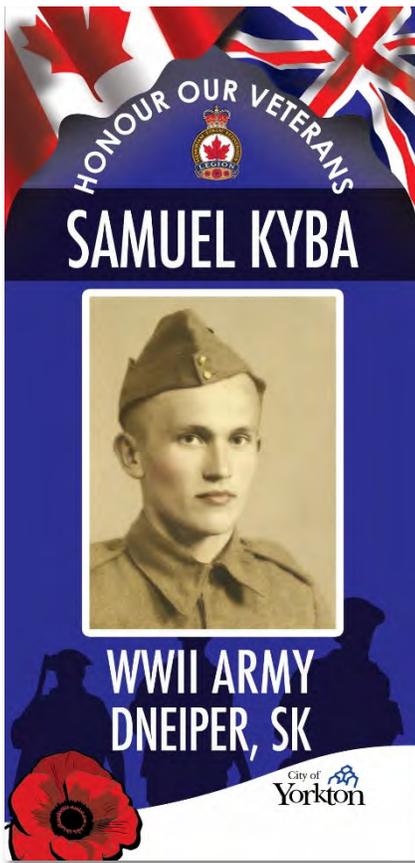
Samuel Kyba
WWII, Army

Samuel Kyba was born on September 10, 1918 at the family farm in Dneiper SK to Dmytro and Maria Kyba. Sam passed away on October 18, 2006 at the age of 87. Sam was raised on a farm in Dneiper, SK. After completing high school, Sam was called to serve in the Canadian Army in the Second World War. He spent time in England, France and Belgium. While overseas Sam developed his artistic skills painting for the army. After the war, with help from the DVA, Sam graduated as a commercial artist from the Ontario College of Art in Toronto. Sam married Matilda Cherewyk on July 26, 1947 in Norquay and in 1949 they moved to Winnipeg to start up a family and his art career. Sam worked for various advertising firms as a photo-retouching artist for the department store catalogues. He worked for 38 years in his job, which was challenging due to his physical disability, spastic paraplegia.

Honoured by his great-niece Brittany and Scott Johnson
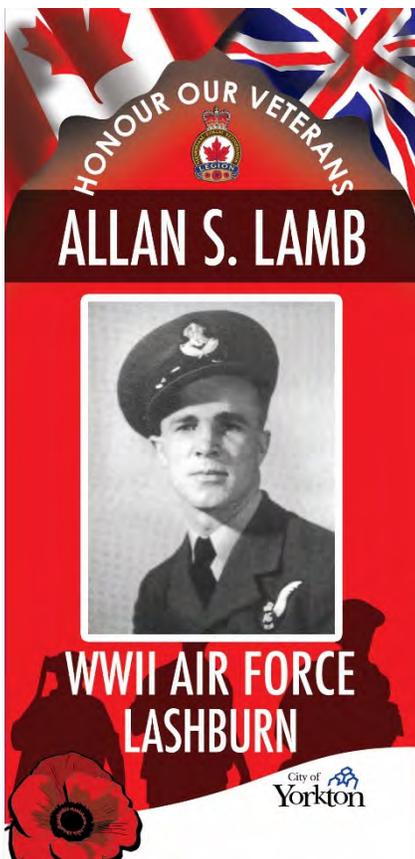
Allan S. Lamb
WWII, Air Force

Allan S. Lamb was born and raised in Lashburn, Saskatchewan. He joined the Air Force in 1943, and took basic training in McDonald, Manitoba. He went overseas to England, and his first stop was 1666 Mildenhall. He then went on to Middleton St. George, and served with the 6 Group Bomber Command with the 419 Moose Squadron. He was transferred to the 428 Ghost Squadron in 1945. Al was promoted to Pilot Officer in 1944, and to Flying Officer in 1945. He started flying Halifax planes, and then Avro Lancasters, serving as a tail gunner and 2nd Navigator while in England. He returned home in 1946, got married and raised three sons. Guy and Gary lived in Yorkton.

Honoured by Gary & Shirley Lamb, Graham, Mathew, Daniel and Dalane, and families
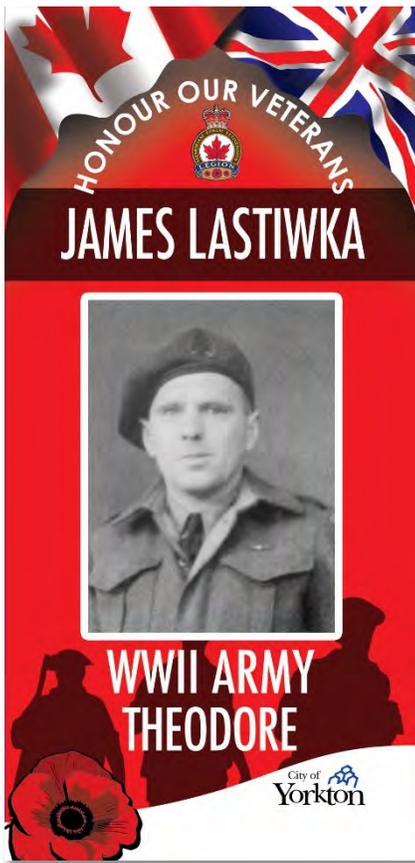
James Lastiwka
WWII, Army

Jim Lastiwka was born August 7, 1918. He was born and raised in the Theodore district. He enlisted in the army in 1942. Jim started with the Prince Albert volunteers, and then went to the Royal Regina Rifles Regiment - Second Division. He served as a No. 1 Brengunner in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany. He was discharged in 1946. He returned to Theodore from the army and acquired farmland through the VLA. James served as Sergeant at Arms at Theodore Legion Branch #34. He died September 17, 1989.

Honoured by the Lastiwka family
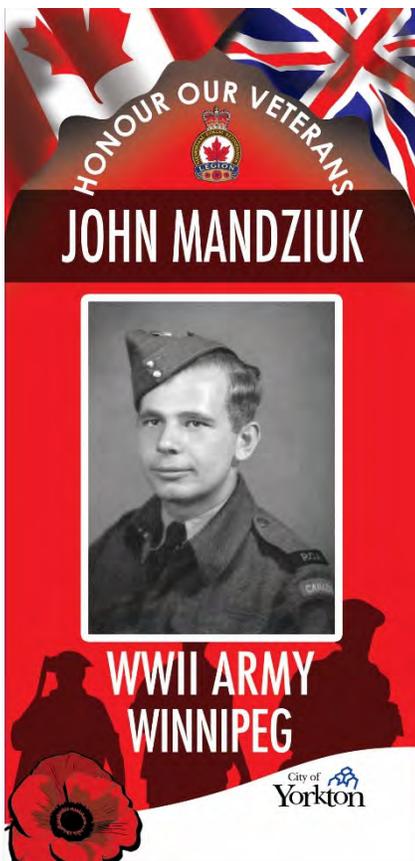
John Mandziuk
WWII, Army

John was born in Winnipeg, MB, in 1923. He enlisted in the army in February, 1943. Basic training was at Fort William, and then John was off to Goose Bay as a guard at the airport. His next stop was Halifax to wait for his overseas posting. John was posted to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. The regiment arrived in Liverpool, England, for more training before seeing action in northwest Europe. At war's end, John sailed back to Canada on the Queen Elizabeth and was discharged in October of 1945. John returned to Winnipeg where he met and married Helen. Deciding to go into business, they purchased a bakery in Yorkton. With family, they operated Yorkton City Bakery for over 30 years. John and Helen retired in Yorkton. John passed away in 2010.

Honoured by his family
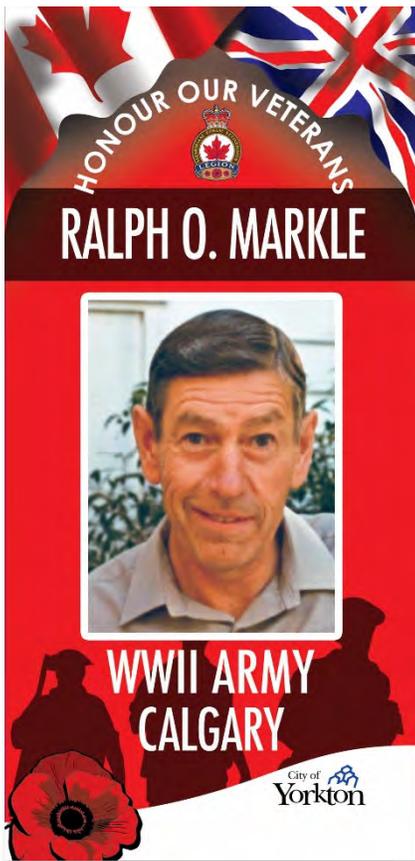
Ralph O. Markle
WWII, Army

Ralph Otto Markle was born May 12, 1926, in Claresholm, AB. On November 24, 1944, at the age of 18, he enlisted in the Army at No. 13 District Depot in Calgary, AB. He served in Canada, the United Kingdom and continental Europe, escorting prisoners of war. He was honourably discharged June 17, 1946. In respect of his service, he was awarded with the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. After discharge, he returned to the Stavely area and farmed for a few years. He then relocated to Calgary where he and his spouse raised a family while he was employed as an electrician for the province of Alberta. Ralph passed away January 20, 2021, at the age of 94 years.

Honoured by his family
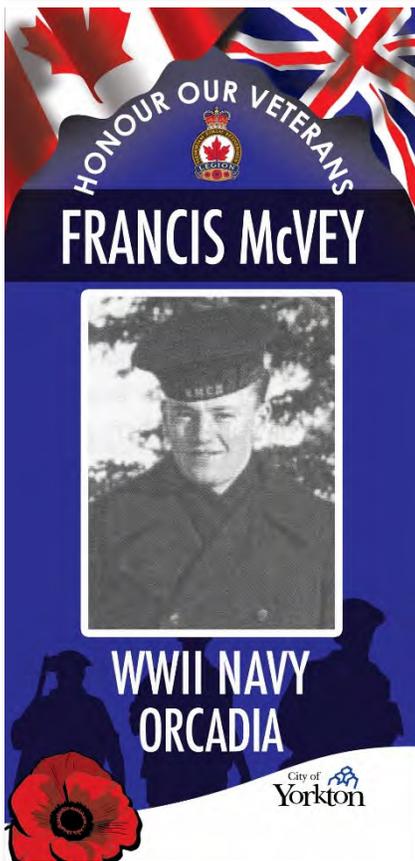
Francis (Frank) McVey
WWII, Navy

Frank McVey was born November 22, 1925, in Yorkton and raised in the Orkney district. In 1942, at the age of 17, Frank joined the Navy. He was stationed in Esquimalt, BC, Halifax, NS, and other points. He also served on the HMCS Lethbridge on convoy duty clearing the way for battleships; those carrying supplies and transporting servicemen to and from war zones. After the war, he took up residence in Yorkton, where he trained in the carpentry trade. He married Phyllis Price in 1948, and they had two children. The family relocated to Regina in 1954. Frank was an active member and past master of the Masonic Lodge, a Shriner, and a piper with the Wa Wa Pipes and Drums, and always a Legion member. Frank passed away in 1976 at 50 years of age.

Honoured by his family
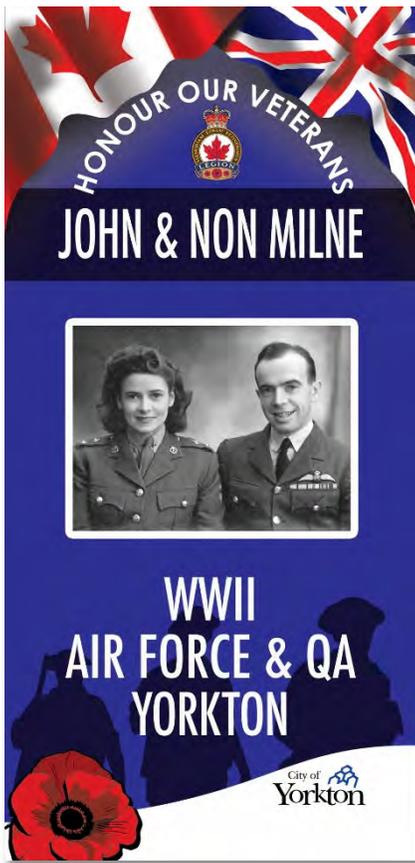
John Milne
WWII, RAF
Non Milne
QA

John Milne was born in Yorkton, in 1915, and dreamed of flying as a young man. In 1938, he enlisted in the RCAF and voluntarily went to England just prior to the outbreak of WWII. Flying with the RAF during the Battle of Britain, he flew many sorties in Hurricanes and Spitfires. On October 22, 1940 he was shot down south of London, and was taken to Dorking Hospital. While convalescing, he met a young Welsh RN named Non Jones. Smitten with each other, the two were soon married. Shot down again in North Africa, in 1942, John was badly wounded, but his luck held. After the war, Non and John returned to Yorkton and spent many pleasant years between their home on King Street and cottage on Crystal Lake.
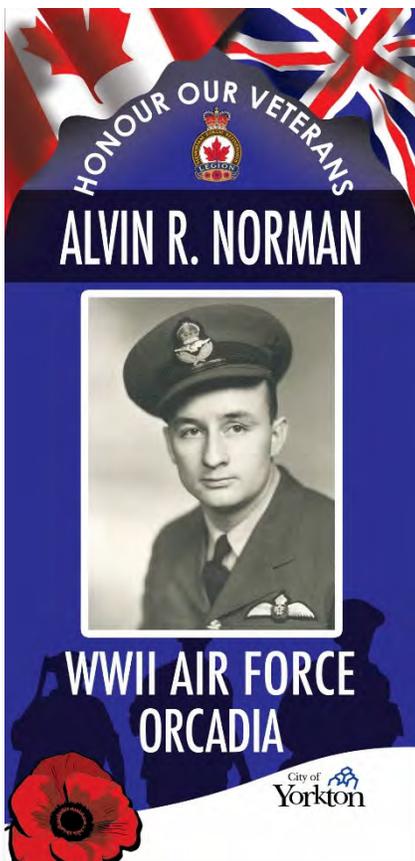
Honoured by Pat and Vic Kushner; Wendy Milne; Peter, Anne and Chris Milne

Alvin R. Norman
WWII, Air Force

Alvin Rendall Norman was born in Yorkton, SK, on March 2, 1916, and was raised on the family farm near Orcadia, SK, along with his sister and two brothers. He attended Orkney School #97 until grade 8, and completed grades 9 - 12 by correspondence. Alvin enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in 1942 and was trained at Edmonton AB, Souris MB, and Regina SK. He received his wings at Dauphin MB, in November 1943 and then trained on twin engine aircraft at Summerside PEI. His next posting was Sydney NS, where he received his Commission and the rank of Flying Officer. He piloted a Canso flying boat, supplying air cover, escort, reconnaissance, and search and rescue along the east coast and into the Atlantic. Then came postings in Goose Bay Labrador, St. John's Nfld, back to Sydney NS, Moncton NB, Penfield Ridge NB as a staff pilot flying DC3s and Beechcrafts. He then moved to ferry command in Comox BC, where he flew many different twin engine aircraft. Alvin was discharged in October of 1945, and received the Atlantic Star, 1939 - 1945 Star, C.V.S.M. and Pilot's Flying Badge. Alvin returned home to farm near Orcadia SK and farmed until 1993. He married Helen Sagan and raised a family of five. Besides farming, Alvin drove a school bus for 14.5 years, served 25 years as Chairman and Secretary of the local Sask Wheat Pool, and was involved in the community, church and local school board. Alvin passed away on April 13, 2001 and was laid to rest in the Orkney Cemetery near Orcadia SK.

*Honoured by Helen A. Norman and family*

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
SHELBY PATTON
RCMP YORKTON
City of Yorkton
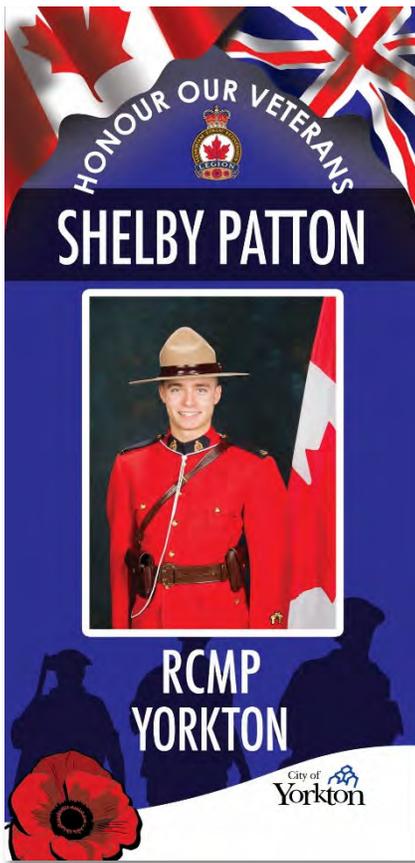
Shelby C. Patton
RCMP

With deepest sorrow, on June 12, 2021, beloved husband, son, brother, and friend, Constable Shelby Chance Patton, age 26, passed suddenly while responding to a call while on duty. Shelby was born and raised in Yorkton, Saskatchewan. Right after graduating from the RCMP depot in Regina, he was posted briefly at the Parliament in Ottawa before moving to Indian Head. Shelby loved many things. He would read, write, create, and was always building and doing house and yard renovations. There was no stopping his passions. He loved animals, bringing home every stray he found just to nurse it back to health. He was always willing to help out friends and family on whatever project they were doing. He loved the outdoors and would often go hiking and on adventures travelling around the globe with his wife, Mari. Most of all, he loved his wife truly, madly and forever. He was lucky enough to find the love of his life right next door to the family acreage and married her in 2016. He is survived by his wife Mari Grobler; sister Kaela; his parents Ashley and Melanie; sister-in-law Katie; in-laws Piet and Erna; grandparents Don and Linda. Those who knew Shelby know that we lost a shining light and a hero. He will be forever remembered in our hearts and may we all live up to his standards: be kind, be humble, be busy, be friendly, be good.

Honoured by Yorkton Regional High School

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
BERNICE D. POWELL
WWII ARMY YORKTON
City of Yorkton
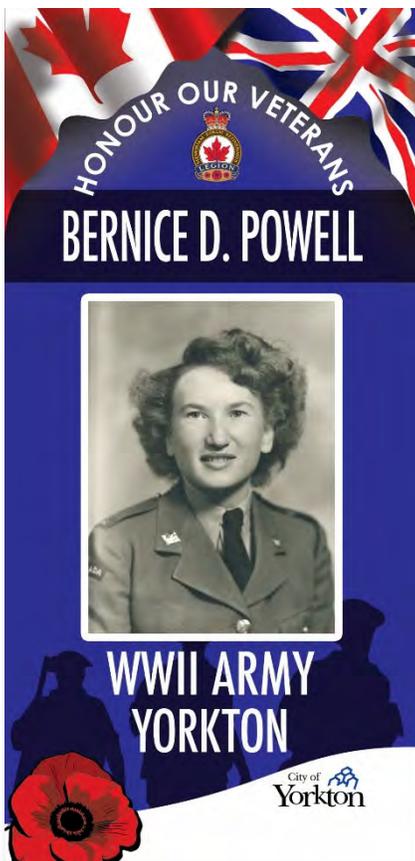
Bernice D. Powell (Smithson)
WWII, Army

Bernice (January 18, 1925 - November 7, 2019) was born in Yorkton and grew up in Ebenezer, Saskatchewan. Bernice joined the Canadian Women's Army Corp in Regina, Saskatchewan, on April 19, 1944, at the age of 19. Bernice took her basic training in Kitchener, Ontario, and after six months, was stationed in Camp Borden, Ontario. Bernice was one of the first fourteen women to arrive, and soon began her job as a telephone switchboard operator. Men who were doing this job were then able to apply for active work overseas. Bernice married Mansel A. Powell in 1945, a marriage of 57 years until Mansel's passing. Bernice was often asked if she met her husband in the army, but they met in Ebenezer, her hometown, where Mansel was visiting family. Bernice's husband, children, and grandchildren were her life.

Proudly honoured by Jack Powell and family, Gloria Powell-Smith and family, Sandra (Powell) Gulka and family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
MANSEL A. POWELL
WWII ARMY
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
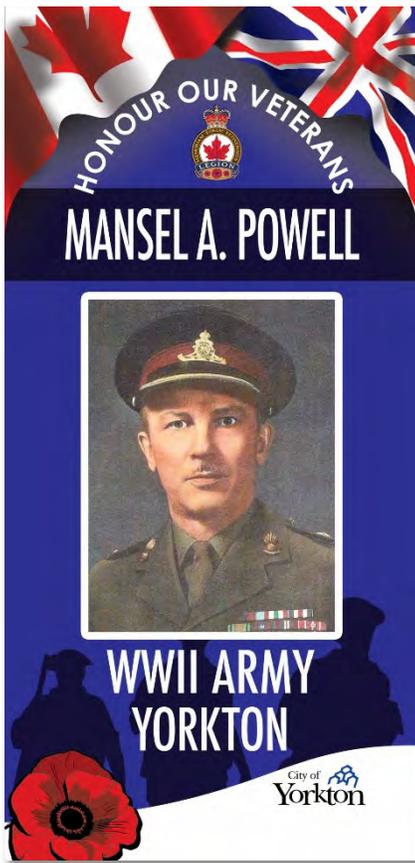
Mansel A. Powell
WWII, Army

Lieutenant Colonel Mansel A. Powell (April 25, 1918 - December 9, 2004) was born on a farm in the Waldron district. In 1936, at the age of 18, he enlisted in Permanent Forces - Lord Strathcona's Horse Cavalry Unit, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In 1941, Mansel went overseas with the Armoured Unit serving in Canada, Italy, and Northwest Europe. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1941, and commissioned as Lieutenant in 1944, after attending Sandhurst Military College in England. Mansel returned to Canada in 1945, volunteering for service in the Pacific Conflict. He rejoined his regiment in 1946, at Camp Borden, Ontario, taking his discharge in 1947, when he started his own business. During the same year, he joined the Reserve Forces (militia), the Heavy Ack Ack RCA stationed at Yorkton, Saskatchewan. He served with the regiment and the 53rd regiment for the next 18 years, being promoted to Captain in 1947, Major in 1951, and Lieutenant Colonel in 1959. He was active with the Navy League of Canada, Past President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Master of the Masonic Lodge - King George Chapter, and a member of the Lord Strathcona Horse Association.

Proudly honoured by Jack Powell and family, Gloria Powell-Smith and family, Sandra (Powell) Gulka and family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
FREDERICK PRESTON
WWII AIR FORCE
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
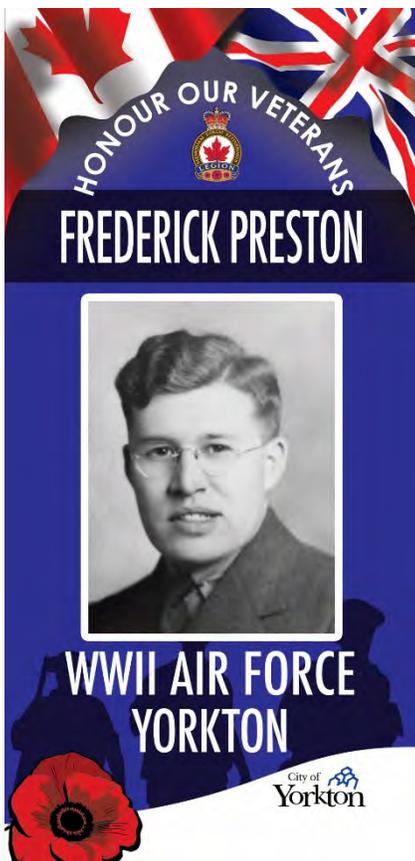
Frederick George Preston
WWII, RCAF

Fred Preston was born in Binscarth, Manitoba, on December 21, 1914. He attended the Yorkton Collegiate before taking his degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the University of Saskatchewan. Shortly after graduation, he enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and served as a radar operator in PEI, from May 5, 1942, to July 1, 1944. He was then transferred to Labrador from July 2, 1944 to March 12, 1945. His latest rank was Leading Aircraftman (LAC). After the war, Fred returned to Yorkton. He married Margaret Anderson in 1943, and they had two sons; Grant and Scott. He worked as a pharmacist for Tucker's Drug Store until 1951, when he opened his own business, Preston's Pharmacy. In 1971, he sold the business to his son, Grant, but continued to work part time until 1978. Frederick died in 1983.

Honoured by Grant and Betsy Preston
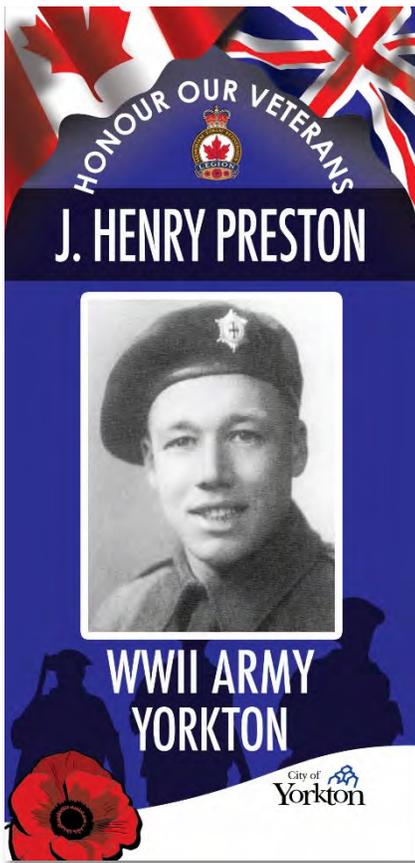
J. Henry Preston
WWII, Army, Saskatchewan Horse

James Henry Preston was born in Yorkton, on July 28, 1912. He attended school at the Yorkton Collegiate and then worked with CN Rail. He married Catherine (Peggy) Lister in 1940, before enlisting. He served with the 16/22 Saskatchewan Horse overseas in France, and then returned to employment with CN after the war. Henry died in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, on July 23, 1995.

Honoured by Grant and Betsy Preston
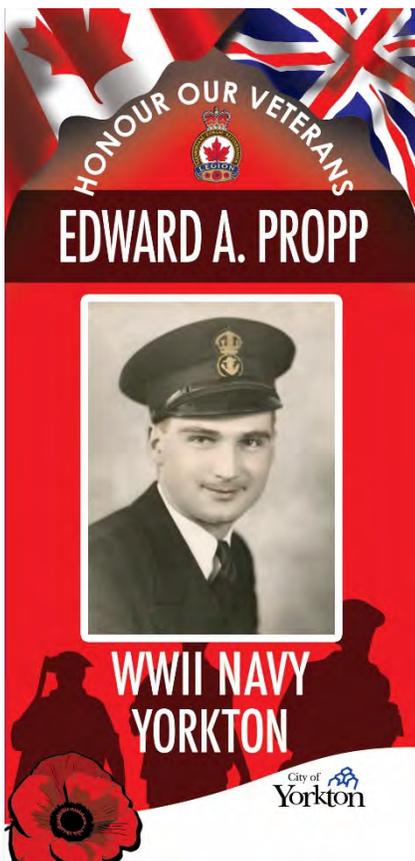
Edward (Ed) Alexander Propp
WWII, Navy

The legacy of WWII was that we learned of Canada's vulnerability at sea. In the real world, the sea is a place where might is right, and you'd better be prepared to face an enemy that is prepared to die for his cause. If you believe bravery is the noblest of human virtues, then we all have to salute the little ships of the Corvette Navy. The men on Canadian Corvettes, the hard-shelled, high-powered bundle of sea dynamite were cut from that cloth. They had to be, as while at sea, they stared death in the eye with every breath they took. The North Atlantic is a dangerous place, at the best of times, where history has taught us that the weak and timid either break or get cast aside. Ed volunteered his time in this service and to the best of our knowledge, the following reflects his service record. From November of 1942 to March of 1943, Ed was assigned to HMCS Hunter. He was then transferred to HMCS Cornwallis from March of 1943 to January of 1945. It is believed this ship sank while he was on leave. From January of 1945 until his discharge, Edward was assigned to the HMCS Chippawa. He started as a Stoker 2nd class and received two promotions. In September of 1943, he was promoted to Acting Machinist's Mate, and then in September of 1944, to Machinist's Mate. Ed Propp, your family salutes you and respectfully honours you for your courage at sea, while defending your country.

Honoured by the family of Ed Propp
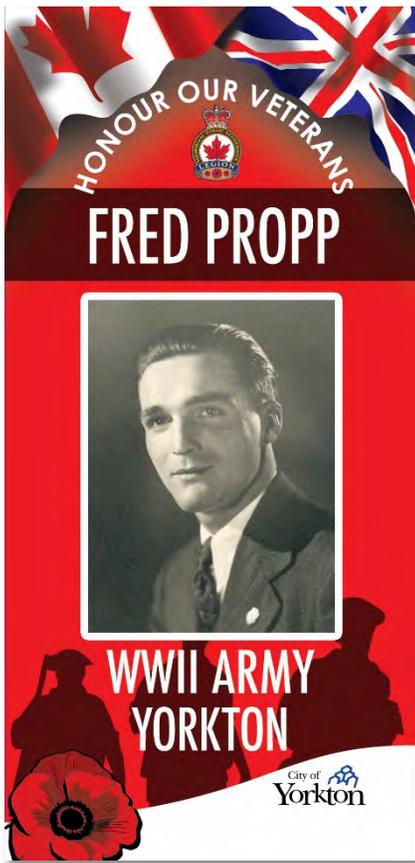
Fred Propp
WWII, Army

Fred Propp was born March 30, 1925, in the village of Rhein, Saskatchewan. Fred is the fifth child of Alexander and Anna Propp (nee Holstein). In the early 1930s, his parents and siblings moved to Yorkton, SK, where his father established Propp's Foodateria. The business existed in excess of sixty-five years and was later owned and operated by his brother, John Propp. In September of 1943, Fred enlisted in the Canadian Army and received his basic training in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. Fred was assigned to the Lake Superior Regiment Fourth Canadian Armoured Division. The division was sent to Normandy in July of 1944. Fred saw service in France, Belgium, and Holland until his honorary discharge in June of 1945. Fred returned to Yorkton, Saskatchewan, and assisted his father in the family business. In February of 1950, Fred married Agnes Durham. The couple was blessed with three sons. In 1954, Fred and his brothers established Midwest Packers Ltd., (Harvest Brand), a thriving family business from which he retired. Fred was an active member with the Royal Canadian Legion and received a life member certificate in October of 2001. Fred celebrated his 80th birthday at the Legion with many friends and family. He passed peacefully August 13, 2005, with his sons by his side.

Honoured by the family of Fred Propp
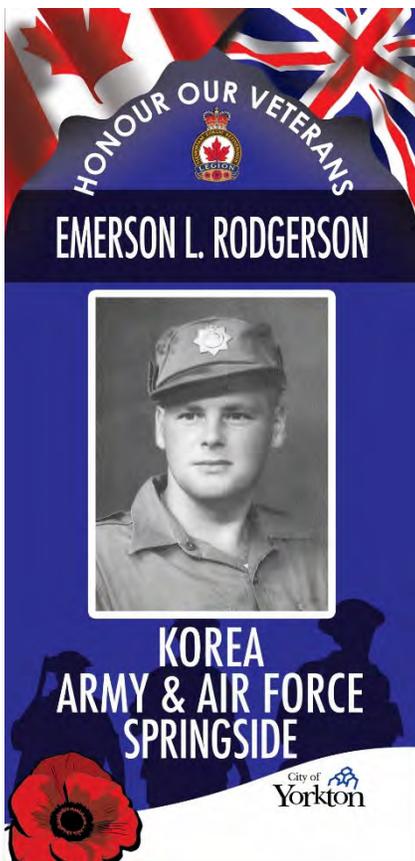
Emerson L. Rodgerson
Korean War, Army and Airforce

Master Corporal Emerson Lorne Rodgerson was born in O'Leary, PEI, on May 11, 1930. He joined the Canadian Army on August 13, 1950 and was discharged on October 20, 1952. He then joined the RCAF on August 4, 1953 and was discharged on January 31, 1968. He next joined the regular component on February 1, 1968, to December 24, 1972, having served in Korea, Canada and the USA. He received the Korean Star and the United Nations medal. After his release, he worked for the DPW (Department of Public Works). Emerson was posted to White Spruce in Orcadia, Saskatchewan, in 1967. He lived in Springside, SK, until he passed away on November 6, 1997.

Honoured by Doug and Kim Rodgerson
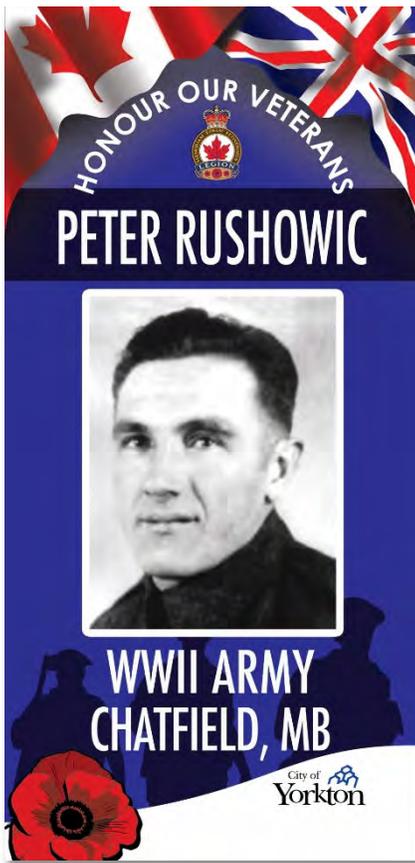
Peter Rushowic
**WWII, Army, Seaforth Highlanders**

Peter Rushowic (brother of Stephen Rushowick and great-uncle of Captain Patrick Rushowick) was born in Chatfield, MB, and enlisted in 1942, at Port Arthur, Ontario. After training in Winnipeg and Shilo, he was sent overseas to England. He served in the Italian Campaign and was killed in action September 1, 1944, at the age of 30 years. Peter is buried in Gradara War Cemetery, Italy. The province of Manitoba named Rushowic Lake in his honour.

Honoured by the Rushowick family
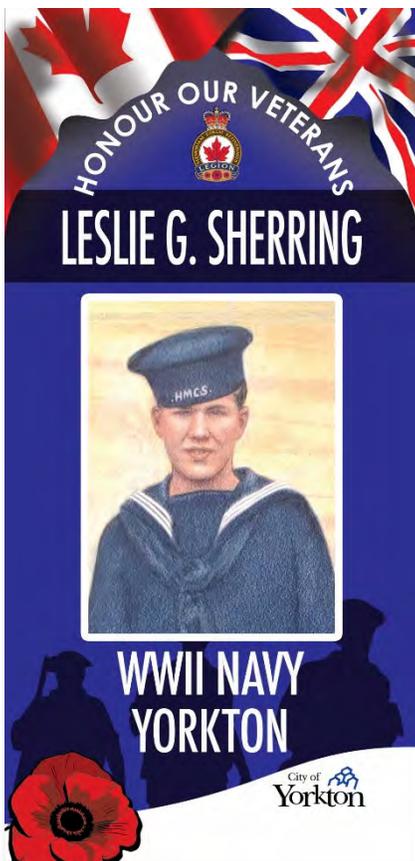
Leslie G. Sherring
WWII, Navy

Joining his brothers when WWII broke out, Les enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy at the age of seventeen and served his country from 1942 to 1945. His Navy action took him overseas where he patrolled the English Channel and down into the Azores. He later went to Normandy on D-Day. Les was positioned as a signalman on the HMCS Lunenburg, a corvette, which was dubbed the Lucky Ship, as it had a lot of near misses involving torpedoes. Its mascot was Bugs Bunny. After the war, Les married Phyllis, his lifelong mate. They had three children together; Brenda, Bryce, and Adelle. Les proudly managed Imperial Optical of Canada for fifty years.

Honoured by the Sherring family
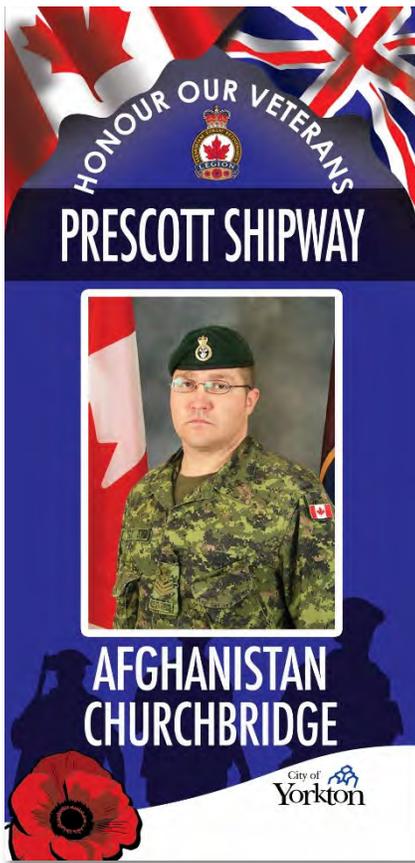
Prescott "Scott" Shipway
Afghanistan, Army

Sergeant Prescott "Scott" Shipway was born in the United Kingdom and came to Canada with his parents and sister in 1974. He lived in Regina for twelve years and then Saskatoon for five years. After leaving high school, he joined the Canadian military and was stationed at Petawawa, ON. He was a member of the Airborne Regiment until disbandment in 1995. He then was transferred to the 1st Battalion PPCLI until 2007, when he transferred to the 2nd Battalion based at Shilo, MB. Prescott served his country in Cyprus, Kosovo, two tours in Bosnia and two tours in Afghanistan. Sergeant Shipway died on September 7, 2008, in Masum Ghar, Afghanistan, at the age of 36 years. Prescott's mother, Susan Shipway, was the Yorkton Legion's Silver Cross Mother for many years.

Honoured by Yorkton Legion Branch #77
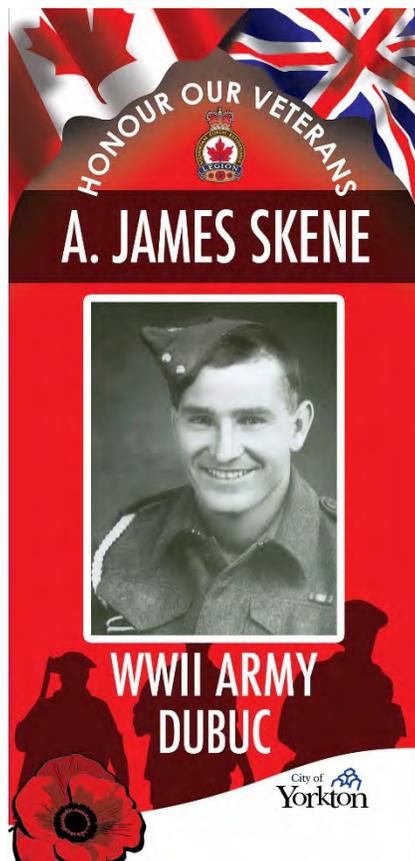
A. James Skene
WWII, Army

James Skene was born in 1917. He enlisted in 1941, serving overseas during WWII with the 4th Division, 110th Battery, 15th Field Regiment RCA (Bombardier) serving in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He was discharged in February of 1946, and was awarded the CVSM and Clasp, 1939 - 1945 Service Star, France/Germany Star, Canadian Services Defence medal, and King George medal. He and his brother, Andrew, farmed together after returning home. He married Effie Bigg, a teacher, in July of 1949. Jim was a lifetime member of the Dubuc Legion #277. He drove school bus and loved the children! He enjoyed all sports and was an avid card player. In 1977, he retired to Dubuc. Jim died December of 2005.

Honoured by Clarence and Irene Andersen family
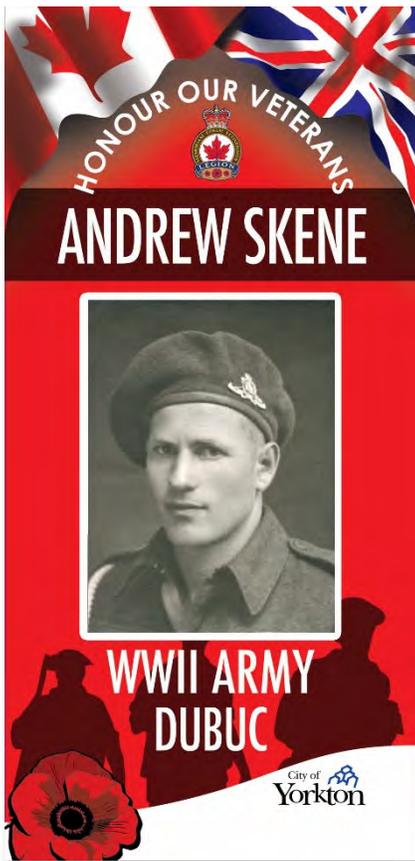
Andrew Skene
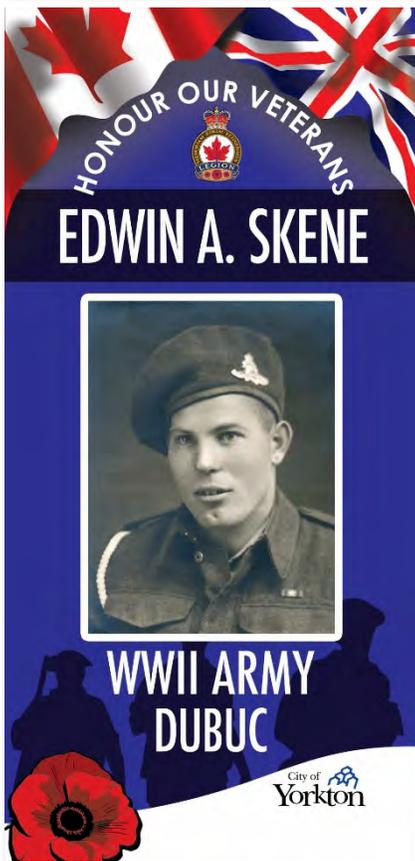**WWII, Army**

Andrew Skene was born in 1915 to Robert and Jane Ann Skene. He lived in Baldur, Ninette, and Crystal City, MB, before settling in Dubuc, SK. Andy joined the militia in 1939 and enlisted in June of 1941, serving in the 4th Division, 110th Battery, 15th Field Regimentt, RCA (Gunner, Cook) in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany, before arriving home on December 27, 1945. Andy was discharged in March of 1946. His service decorations were the CVSM and Clasp, 1939 - 1945 Service Star, France/Germany Star, Canadian Services Defense medal, and the King George medal. He was a lifetime member of the Dubuc RCL #277. He loved nature and all animals, especially dogs and horses, and he enjoyed playing bingo. Andy died in October of 2003.

Honoured by Clarence and Irene Andersen family

Edwin A. Skene
WWII, Army

Edwin Skene was born in 1919. He joined the reserves in 1939, and enlisted with brothers, Jim and Andy, in 1941. All three served overseas together. He served in the United Kingdom, and continental Europe as a Lance Bombardier. He arrived home December 27, 1945 and was discharged February of 1946. He was a member of the Dubuc RCL, and later, the Yorkton Legion Branch. His service decorations were the CVSM and Clasp, 1939 - 1945 Service Star, France/Germany Star, Canadian Services Defence medal, and the King George medal. Ed married Dorothy Ungar in 1969 and loved his blended family. He operated a service station in Dubuc for many years before retiring to Yorkton. He passed in 2006.

Honoured by Clarence and Irene Andersen family
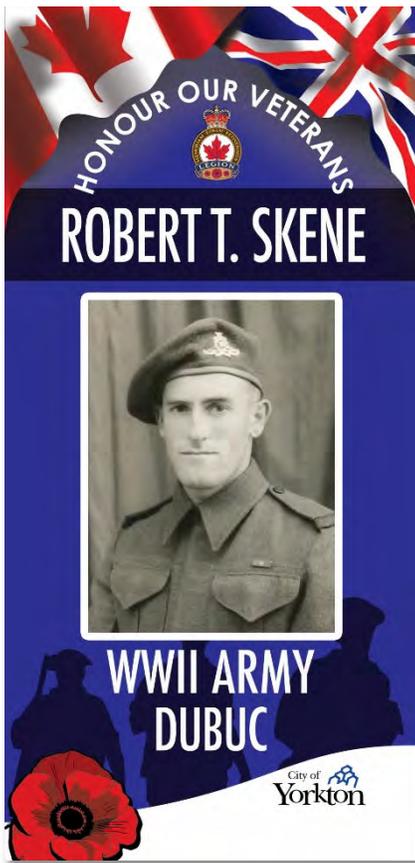
Robert T. Skene
WWII, Army

Robert T. Skene was born in 1912. He enlisted in the army in March of 1941, serving overseas in the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA- Gunner). Service decorations were the CVSM and Clasp, 1939 - 1945 Service Star, France/Germany Star, Canadian Services Defense medal, and the King George medal. He was discharged in October of 1945, returned home and started farming. Bob married Winnie Reynolds in 1945, while in England. They had one daughter. Bob was a member of the Dubuc RCL #277, the Excelsior Lodge #48, and was a Cotham School trustee serving as chairman when the new school was built. Bob died from a ruptured appendix in September of 1957.

Honoured by daughter Susan Robinson and family
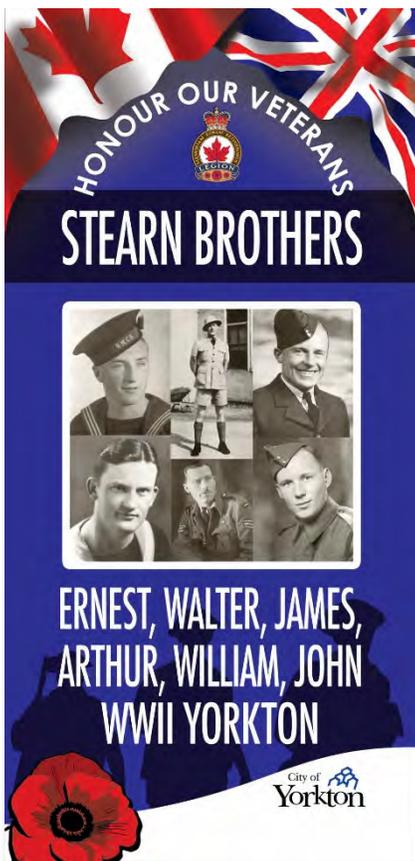
Ernest, Walter, James, Arthur D., William H., and John "Jack" Stearn
WWII
Ernest (RCN), Walter (Army), James (RCAF), Arthur D. (RCNVR), William H. (RCAF), John (Army)

The Stearn Brothers all came home to Yorkton after the war. Ernie was in the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) and received a medical discharge due to ankylosing spondylitis. After the war, he moved to Vancouver, B.C. Walter was in the army. He was called "Hockey" from a very early age. After the war, he lived in Vancouver, BC, as an automotive painter. James was in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). After the war, he worked at the MacMillan Bloedel pulp mill in their security and fire departments in Chemainus, BC. Arthur started out in the air force, then switched to the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR) as a telegrapher. Before the war, he worked for the CPR, but after the war, he went to work for the CNR, first as a relief agent, next as station agent and finally, as the evening operator in Melville, until retirement in 1981. William was in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Before the war, he worked for the CPR and returned to Yorkton to work for them after the war. John was in the army. After the war, he worked security at the parliament buildings in Victoria, B.C. He received the Order of Canada for his work helping people in the north.

*Honoured by Phyllis and Hugh Stearn*
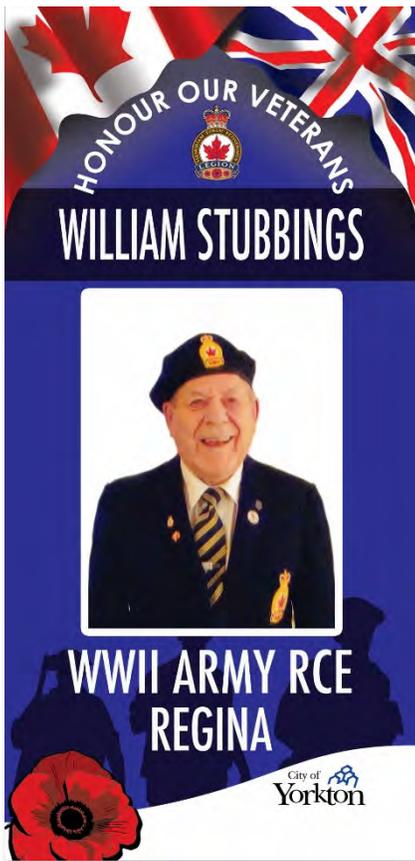
William J. Stubbings
WWII, Army, RCE

Bill Stubbings was born July 16, 1926. After being in Air Cadets for three years, and on becoming 18 years of age in July of 1944, Bill enlisted in the Army Royal Canadian Engineers (RCE) unit in Regina, SK. He travelled to Chilliwack, BC, to the engineers' camp at Vedder Crossing. The RCAF was putting on an air show in 1945, at Sea Island, where the Air Force had their base. There not being enough bridges for the traffic to get to the air show, the engineers' unit was given the task of building a Bailey bridge across the Fraser River from Vancouver to Sea Island. The war soon ended, and Bill was honourably discharged back to Regina. Bill presently lives in Yorkton, enjoying playing crib and Bridge, and otherwise enjoying retirement. He has been an Ordinary Member of the Yorkton Legion for 49 years, serving on the executive for many of those years.

Honoured by his family
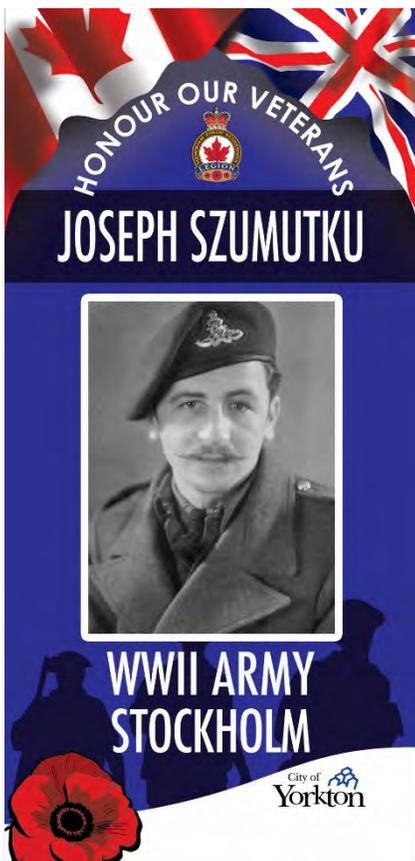
Joseph Szumutku
WWII, Army

Joseph Marvin Szumutku was born September, 1923 at Stockholm, SK. He enlisted January 12, 1944, and served for 29 months, with 19 months service overseas. He was affiliated with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment and the South Saskatchewan Regiment. In April of 1945, he was wounded in battle in France. He received an honourable discharge in June of 1946. He attained the rank of Sergeant and was awarded the 1939 - 1945 Star, Italy Star, France & Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp. After his service, Joe returned to Stockholm where he married, farmed, and raised a family. He was an active member of the community, playing and coaching fastball and hockey, and serving as an R.M. counsellor for 16 years. Joe raised and showed Clydesdale horses and was a skilled leather harness crafter. He died in October of 1988.

Honoured by the Szumutku family
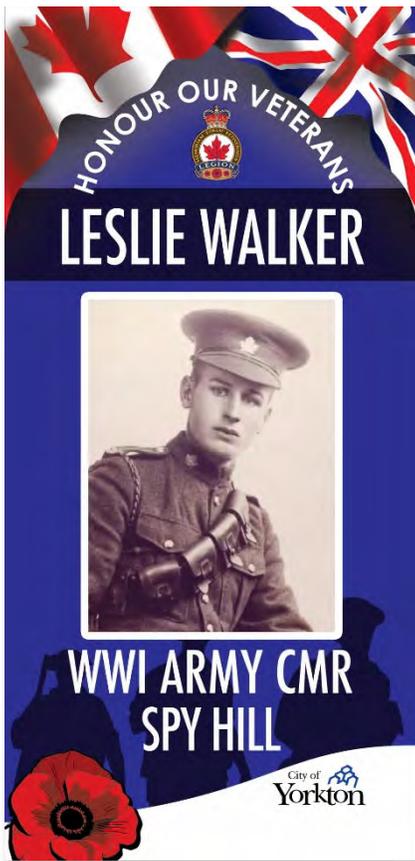
Leslie Walker
WWI, Army, Canadian Mounted Rifles

Leslie was born in Leeds, England, November 10, 1893. Shortly after his father Harry Walker, one of England's first motorcycle manufacturers, was killed in a motorcycle accident, Leslie and his mother, Miriam, moved to Canada. On May 14, 1915, in Regina, he enlisted in the 10th Canadian Mounted Rifles. He embarked from Canada, April 23, 1916, on the S.S. Olympic, arriving in England on May 7. Before landing in France on August 12, Leslie was posted to Bramshott Military Camp, near Hampshire, England. While serving in France, he was awarded a Good Conduct Badge in June of 1917. He also received a medal for fighting in Ypres. On May 13, 1919, he left for England from LeHavre, and then left London for Canada at the end of May. After sailing into Halifax on the HMS Adriatic, he was discharged on June 12, 1919, and headed home to farm in the Spy Hill area. He married Mary Ferguson and they had one daughter, Doreen, in 1933, before Mary died in 1940. Leslie passed away on November 5, 1966.

*Honoured by his loving family; the Halls, Austmans, and Feists*
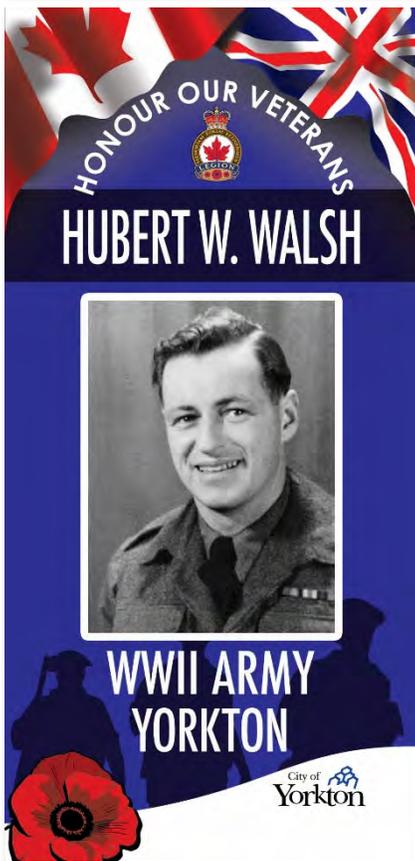
Hubert William Walsh
WWII, Army

Corporal Hubert William Walsh (August 25, 1918 - October 6, 1959) was born in Yorkton to William and Mary Walsh. The eldest son of three boys and four girls, he was educated in Yorkton at Burke Elementary School and St. Joseph's College. As a young lad, he was a stickler for excellent posture. Often teased by schoolmates for his love of singing, his vocal prowess could be heard singing in the St. Gerard's Church Drama Club, school shows, and St. Patrick's Day events. Hubert took on the role of breadwinner with the untimely death of his father in June of 1933. He was very business-minded and became the night supervisor at the Yorkton Bus Depot. He joined the Canadian Army in 1943 and was assigned to the Army Provost Corps. Thanks to his love of music, Hubert eventually became a cast member of one troupe of The Canadian Army Show. He loved to sing old Irish tunes and would often perform the song "Macushla". Hubert resumed working the night shift at the bus depot after the war. Eventually, Greyhound promoted him to Calgary, where he met and married Mary (Bernice) Horrigan in 1955. They had three children (Pat, Mike, and Donna). Hubert died unexpectedly from a virus in 1959 and is buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Calgary.

Honoured by Donna Walsh Allan and James MacKenzie

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
PATRICK C. WALSH
WWII AIR FORCE
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
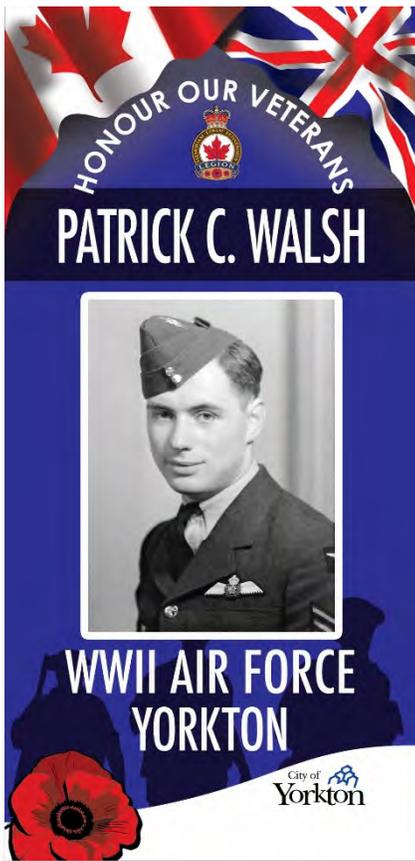
Patrick Charles Walsh
WWII, 83 Squadron RAF

Patrick (April 10, 1921 - March 29, 1942) was born in Yorkton to William and Mary Walsh. He was the middle son of three boys and four girls. Residing at 27 Dunlop Street West in Yorkton, the siblings learned to skate on Stevens' family rink next door. During the summer, his family worked on the farm two miles east of the Mehan Road elevator siding off Highway 9 North. The homestead known as Mary's Quarter is still owned and farmed by family cousins. Patrick was educated in Yorkton at Burke Elementary School and St. Joseph's College. He enjoyed a mix of Fine Arts and sports, having played a lot of basketball and taken dance classes from Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter in the basement gym of the old Patrick Building. Patrick also had a penchant for acting. Patrick was "air-minded" and he often would dream of being free as a bird floating through the clouds. After high school, he took an Air Tech course in Saskatoon before starting pilot's training in Prince Albert. According to two of his sisters, Patrick was known to occasionally test the patience of his instructors. He apparently drove his airplane into a snowbank during a training exercise and later flew under one of the Prince Albert bridges during a training flight. He was awarded his wings in Medicine Hat on August 8, 1941. Flight Sergeant Patrick Charles Walsh was killed in action a few days shy of his 21st birthday. He is buried in the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Keil, Germany.

Honoured by James MacKenzie

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
JOHN WLADICHUK
WWII ARMY
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
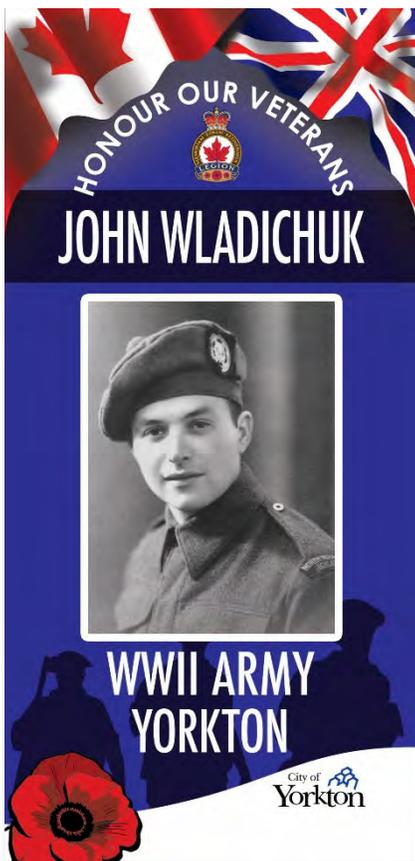
John Wladichuk
WWII, Army

John Wladichuk enlisted in the Canadian Army in Regina, on September 3, 1943. He was sent to Camp Borden on January 16, 1944, where he completed basic and advanced training. He served his country in WWII for twenty-nine months, with nineteen months in the U.K. and continental Europe. He was a trained Army Service Corps and Infantry soldier and a proud member of the Nova Scotia Highlanders. He was qualified as a driver with Class III of wheeled vehicles. He also had a field ambulance course. He was employed in action as a rifleman and Bren gunner. While in service, his rate of pay was $1.40 per diem, which was later increased to $1.50. He left England to go to the Normandy Landing to fight on the front lines. He also fought in Italy, Belgium, and the Netherlands. In one incident, he was running for cover, and a shell struck him in the pant leg without wounding him, which was a miracle. Once, back in Italy, the soldiers were very hungry. He came upon a henhouse, gathered some eggs and boiled them in his helmet. John was discharged on April 27, 1946, at the age of 22 years and 8 months. John was a very private person and didn't like to share too many stories about the war. He enjoyed getting together with his comrades every November 11, until his passing in 1991.

Honoured by his family
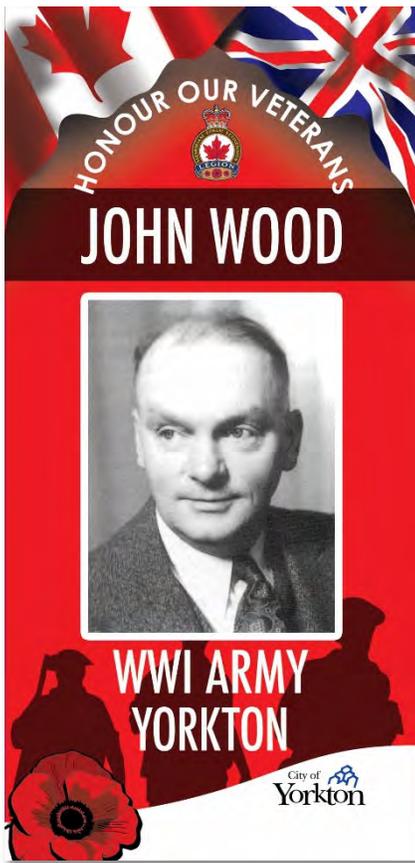
John Wood
WWI. Army

John Wood was born on July 1, 1898, in Middleton by Goulgeanne, R. D. England. He came to Canada in 1910 and resided in Yorkton. On May 10, 1916, John enlisted in the army. He served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force 188th Battalion in France for 25 months. He was in the 46th Battalion and 3rd Canadian Lbr. Battalion until he was discharged on February 26, 1919. After the war, he returned to Yorkton. He started a career as a movie projectionist in January of 1920, at the Princess Theatre, and married Nora Vine on September 11, 1921. John Wood joined Rothstein Theatres in 1928, at the Roxy, and then moved to The Tower Theatre in 1954. John retired in December of 1971 and lived in Yorkton until his death on March 2, 1995.

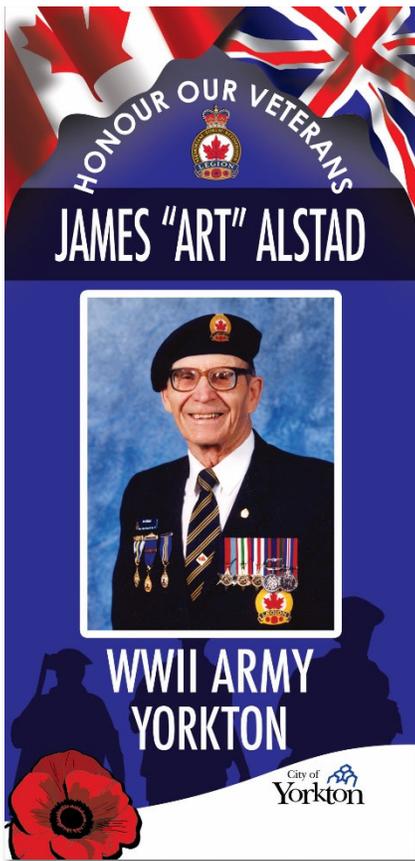*Honoured by Grant and Betsy Preston*

Nester Yaholnitsky
WWII, Army

Private Nester Yaholnitsky, Algonquin Regiment, resident of Yorkton, SK, was the son of Peter and Antonia Yaholnitsky. He fought and was killed in action in Boekhoute, Belgium, on September 23, 1944, during WWII, at the age of 28. He was awarded four medals posthumously: the 1939 - 1945 Star, the France- Germany Star, the War Medal 1939-45, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He is still honoured by the people of Boekhoute and loved and remembered by his family of eleven siblings and their children. A lake in Northern Saskatchewan has been named in his honour, and a plaque has been placed there in his memory.

Honoured by the family of Dr. Stephen Yaholnitsky

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James (Art) Alstad
WWII, Army

James Arthur Alstad (always known as Art) was born on November 17, 1920, in the Morse-Riverhurst area of Saskatchewan. His dedication to his family and country was without question. He was always kind and considerate and dealt with everything in a fair manner. He lived his life with dignity, compassion, understanding and had a true and gentle heart. He was thoughtful, humble and was very humorous and quick-witted. He was dedicated to his family and fellow veterans his whole life. He joined the Army in 1942 and served in Canada, the Italian campaign, England and the European continent. Later, he was very involved with the Royal Canadian Legion and received a life membership and the Meritorious Service Medal and Palm Leaf for his dedication.

Honoured by his family
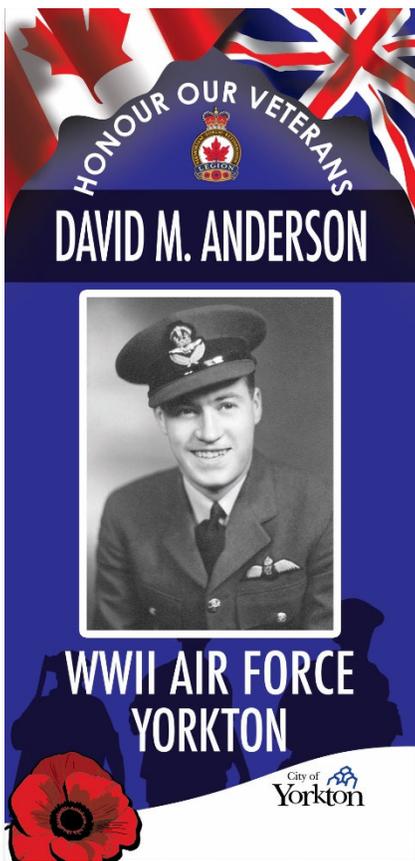
David M. Anderson
WWII, Air Force

David Maurice Anderson was born on June 16, 1919, at Beaverdale, SK to David and Ethel Anderson. He received his education at Springside, SK. In 1937, he accepted employment with the Yorkton branch of the Royal Bank, and later saw service with the bank in Moose Jaw, and Pembroke, Ontario. In October 1942, he enlisted with the R.C.A.F. and took his training in Eastern Canada. He was awarded his wings on October 9, 1942. Immediately upon graduating, he was posted overseas and was promoted to the rank of Flying Officer in June of 1943. David was killed in active service overseas on September 24, 1943, at the age of 24. He was survived by his mother, Ethel, and two sisters, Mabel and Sybil Dodds. He is buried in the Nicosia War Cemetery on the island of Cyprus. The Anderson Channel in Northern Saskatchewan is named in memory of David.

Honoured by Karen Brice
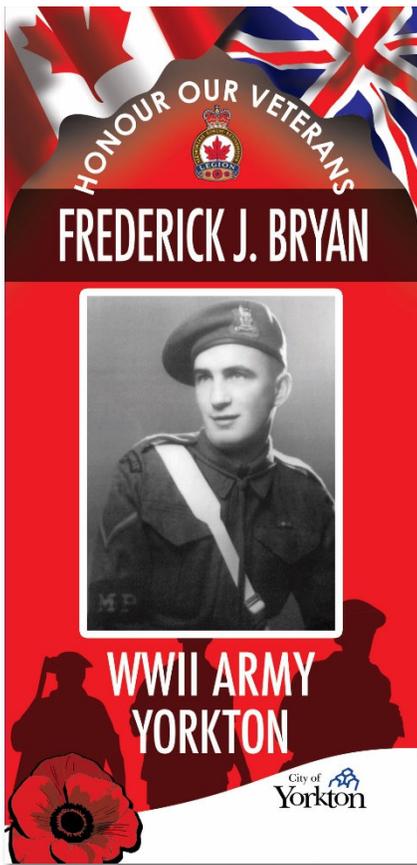
Frederick James Bryan
WWII, Army

Frederick James Bryan was born June 9, 1920, on the family farm near Tonkin. He was the eldest of seven children. Fred enlisted in 1939, at the age of 19, and trained in Dundurn, SK. He was a Lance Corporal with the Canadian Provost Corp (the military police), and was stationed in England, Belgium, Holland and France. He spent many hours patrolling the streets of London on Harley Davidson or Indian motorcycles, guiding civilians to bomb shelters and rounding up fellow troop members. The night before D-Day, Fred was ambushed by some Nazi sympathizers and woke up in a London hospital, unable to join his comrades in Normandy. This was very upsetting for him. After the war, Fred farmed in the Tonkin area for a few years, and then was employed by McGavin's Bakery, first in Yorkton, and then in Regina. After retirement from the bakery, he worked for the Commissionaires for many years at the Regina Provincial Correctional Centre and then as security for SaskPower. Fred married Ethel Kerr, in 1951. They had two children, Brent and Brenda. He passed away on June 10, 1993.

*Honoured by the Bryan and Seib families*
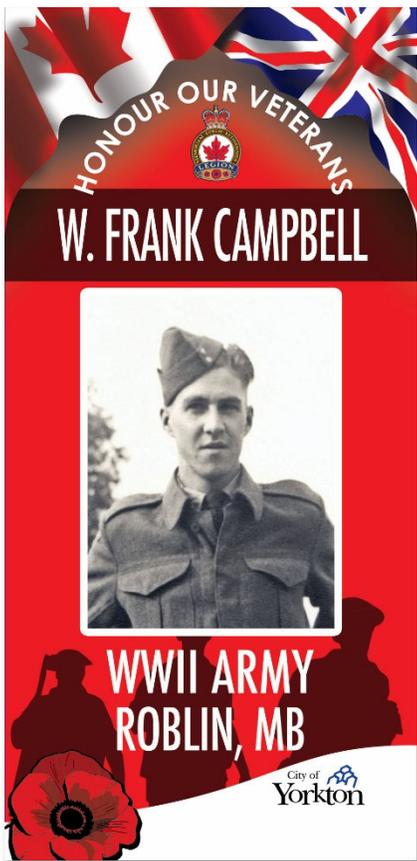
William Francis Campbell
WWII, Army

William (Frank) was born July 2, 1921, on the family farm in the R. M. of Miniota, Manitoba, to Violet and Reginald Campbell. He enlisted in the Army on April 2, 1942, and by 1943, was in southern England, a Lance Bombardier with the 8th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment. In the aftermath of the D-Day invasion, his unit served on the drive from northern France through Belgium, the Netherlands, and into northern Germany.

On January 1, 1946, Frank arrived back home on the train in Winnipeg to be greeted by his mother and other relieved family members. Frank was officially discharged from the Army on February 15, 1946.

Honoured by his children, Robert, Malcolm, Neil, Donna and Langdon Campbell
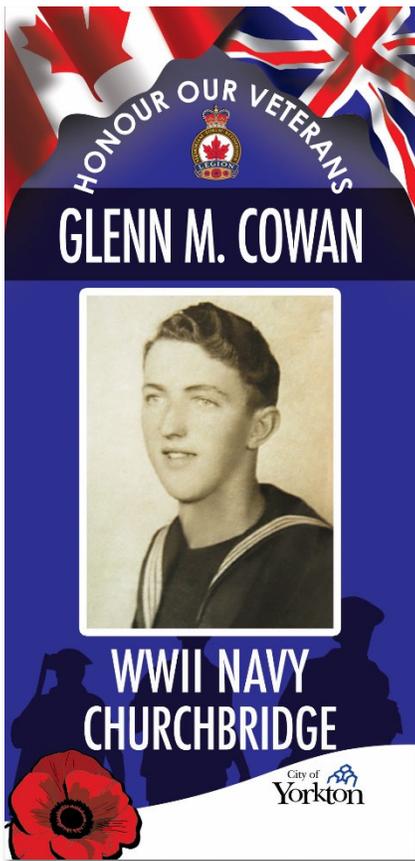
Glenn M. Cowan
WWII, Navy

Able Seaman Cowan left Churchbridge, SK in April 1944 to join the Royal Canadian Navy. His training took him to Saskatoon, then Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, where he served on the HMCS Thetford Mine Frigate and the Clifton Sea-going Tug. He was discharged in March 1946. Glenn and his wife, Peg (Bembridge) made their home in Bredenbury, SK. Able Seaman Cowan was awarded the C.V.S.M. and Clasp, the 1939 - 45 War Medal, and the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal. His brother, Murray A. Cowan, was killed in action in 1942, on the Corvette HMCS Spikenard which was torpedoed in the North Atlantic.

Honoured by the Cowan family
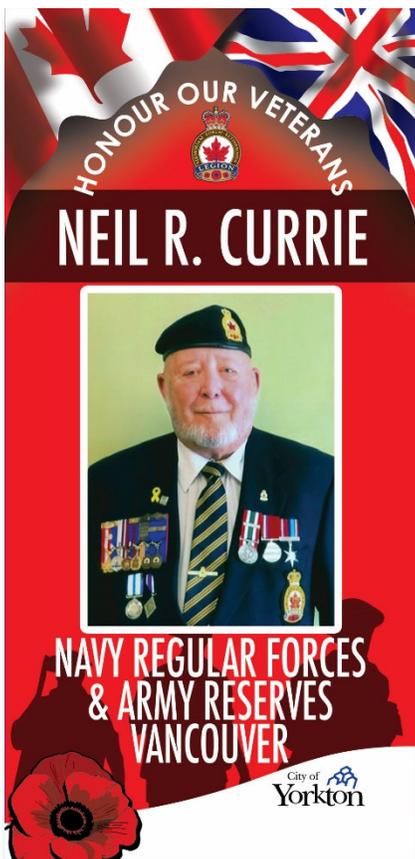
Neil R. Currie
Cold War, North Atlantic, Cuban Blockade, Army Reserves, Navy

Neil was born December 1, 1941, in Ottawa, Ontario, the eldest of four children. His family moved to British Columbia in 1949, and he grew up in the Vancouver area. He joined the Royal Canadian Engineers Reserves in 1957, and trained there until December 1959, when he joined the Royal Canadian Navy. He spent most of his time patrolling for Russian trawlers on the North Atlantic. In October of 1962, his ship sailed south to join the Cuban Blockade. In December 1962, he was released from the Royal Canadian Navy and rejoined the Royal Canadian Engineers 39th Combat Infantry Regiment 6th Field Squadron until his release in 1964.
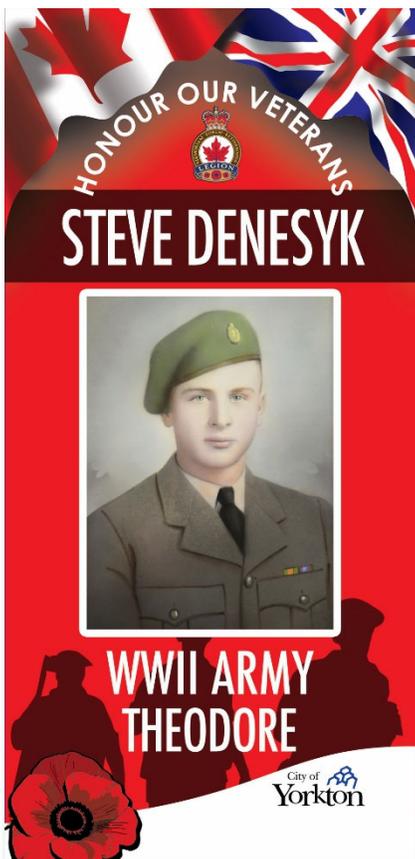
Honoured by his family
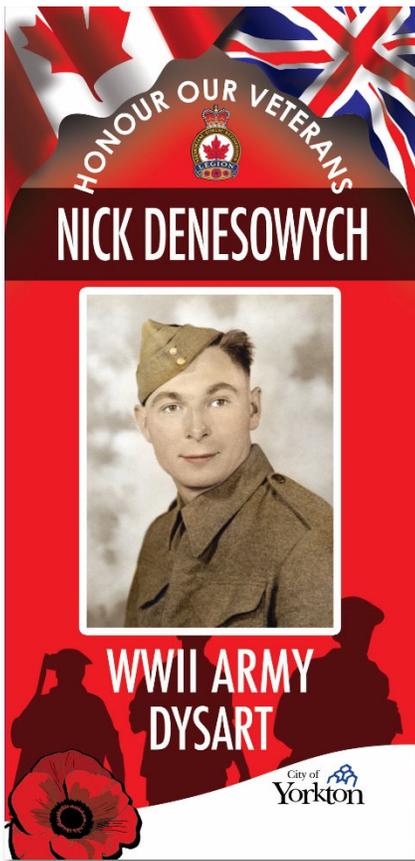
Nick Denesowych
WWII, Army

Nick was born in the Dysart, SK area. At 23 years of age, in February 1942, Nick enrolled in the Canadian Army. He served in Canada and was discharged from service October 3, 1945.

Honoured by Allan and Cheryl Denesowych

Steve Denesyk
WWII, Army

Steve was raised in the Theodore area in a family of five brothers and two sisters. In 1942, military agents attended town dances in Theodore to talk about the war and recruit young men. As the 4th son, Steve's father felt he should join the army. There were enough men on the farm. One day before his 19th birthday in 1943, Steve boarded the army train at Theodore, SK. He did his basic training in Tofino and was then sent overseas. Choosing to not talk about the war much, all we know is that he was close to being sent to the front lines but kept back from his troop due to a rugby injury. He was later transferred into what he called the Army Police. He did not enjoy this work, having to police fellow army soldiers who were often very traumatized. His army certificate says he served in Canada, United Kingdom and Continental Europe. He expressed an admiration for Holland and its people. The tulip became his favorite flower. He received his discharge papers in July 1946. He returned to the Theodore area, eventually settling to farm with his wife, Frances Karapita, in the Jedburgh area.

*Honoured by Cheryl and Allan Denesowych*
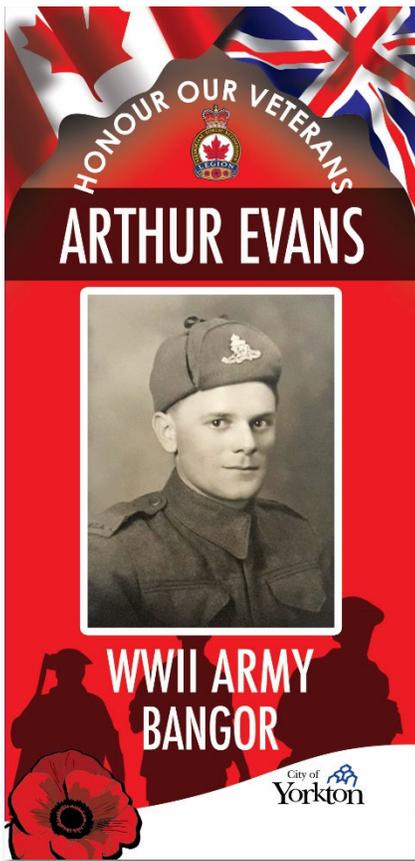
Arthur Evans
WWII, Army

Arthur Evans was born and raised on a farm near Bangor, SK. He joined the army in February 1941, in Saskatoon. In November, he was sent overseas where he saw active duty as a gunner and as a driver mechanic in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He served overseas for 48 months and was part of the D-Day invasion in 1944 on the beaches of Normandy. Upon his discharge from the army, he returned home to his roots in the Bangor area and purchased a farm just a few miles from where he was born and raised. In 1946, he married Violet Hughes from the Bangor area and they raised three children: Lyle, Sharon and Lynton. Arthur remained on the farm until his passing in 1991. Arthur was a lover of his family, his farm, his community and his Welsh heritage.

Proudly honoured by his family
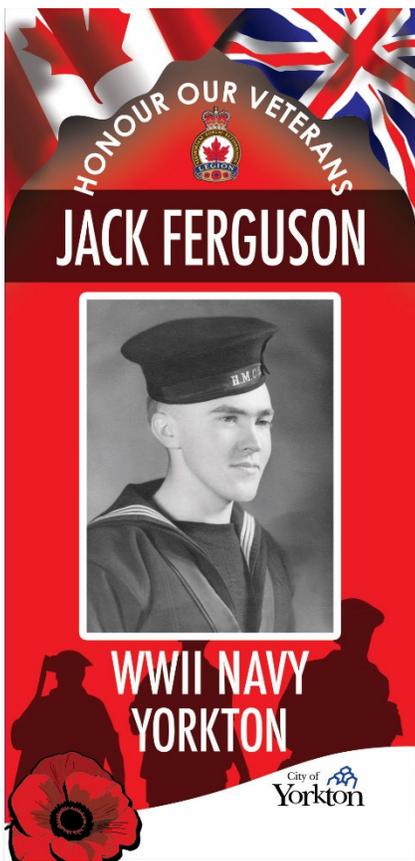
Alexander John Ferguson
WWII, Navy

Jack Ferguson joined the Navy after graduating from YCI High School. He was born, raised and lived all his life in Yorkton until passing away at age 78. He enlisted and was sent to Dundurn, SK, for his Navy training. In proportion, the Navy had more people enlist from Saskatchewan than any other province. From there, he was stationed in Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Cornwallis. He never saw duty overseas as WWII came to an end shortly after his joining the Navy. He continued to attend Navy reunions throughout his life.

Honoured by sons Douglas and Ian Ferguson
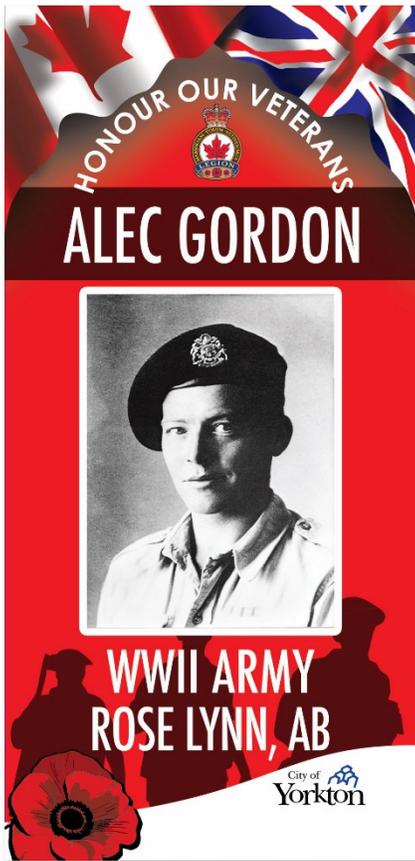
G.A. (Alec) Gordon
**WWII, Army**

G. A. Gordon (Alec) was born January 22, 1917, the third of four sons born to George and Annie at home in Rose Lynn, Alberta. He served in WWII in the Calgary Tank Regiment from its mobilization in 1941 to his discharge in January, 1946. Alec did basic training in Camp Borden, Ontario, and then tank gunnery training in Wales and England. The Calgarys landed in Dieppe in 1942, losing 196 men in seven hours. The Tank Regiment was later sent to Sicily and Italy. In February 1945, Alec was shipped off to France, and then moved into Belgium and then Holland with his Regiment.

After WWII, Alec married Annie Agnes Henderson in Rosehearty, Scotland (where his family had lived before emigrating to Canada), on Nov. 5, 1945. Nancy joined him in Canada in 1946, and they lived near Turner Valley, Alberta, where he got a job working for B. A. Oil (later Gulf Oil). They had two children, Robert and Lorna, and eventually retired to Penticton, B.C.

Honoured by the Szabo family
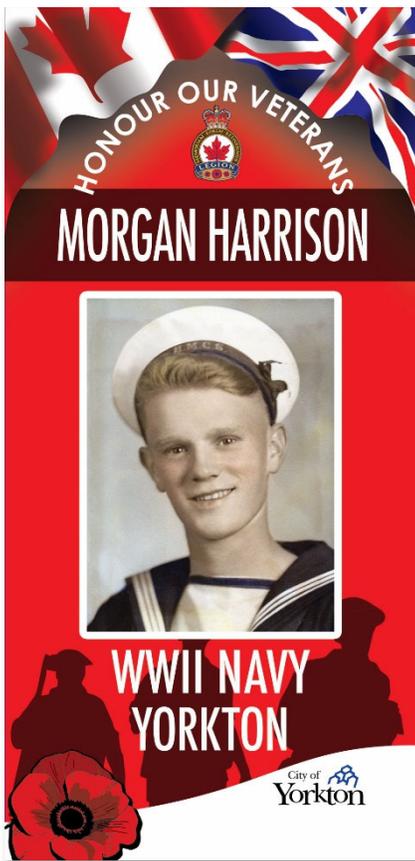
Hubert John Harrison
WWII, Navy

Hubert John (Morgan) Harrison was born July 30, 1923, in Wadena, SK. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy, H.M.C.S. Unicorn (Her Majesty's Service), Saskatoon. At that time, he took two months of naval training and was then sent to Halifax. His position was a stoker and his rank was a Leading Seaman. He was sent to Scotland where he served for 3.5 years on the destroyers HMCS Crusader and the HMCS Algonquin. In December 1945, he returned home via the Panama Canal and Vancouver Port. In 1946, he received his discharge. He began his civilian life as Postmaster in the village of Margo. Morgan passed away August 1, 1998.

Honoured by the Harrison family
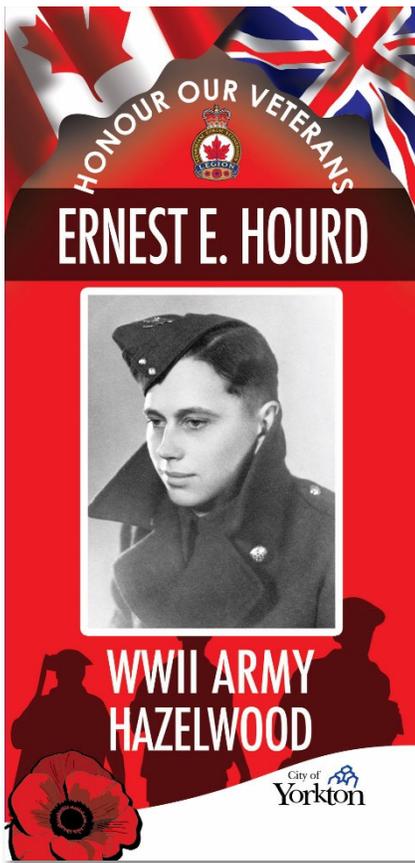
Ernest E. Hourd
WWII, Army

Ernest Edward (Ernie) Hourd was born in the Hazelwood area of Saskatchewan, May 6, 1922. He attended Saffordea School but left after the 6th grade to help provide for a family of eight siblings. He worked various farm jobs and cut brush along the roadways to pay back "relief" (as it was called) that his family received. On November 3, 1941, he enlisted in the Canadian Army at Moosomin with 101st Artillery. He served in England, France, Belgium, Germany and Holland as a Bren Gun Operator with a rank of Lance Corporal. He received his discharge on November 10, 1945, just after signing up for jungle warfare training in Japan. After his return to Saskatchewan, he married Lillian Gulka, and raised eight children. He passed away December 8, 2012.

*Honoured by the Ernie and Lillian Hourd family*
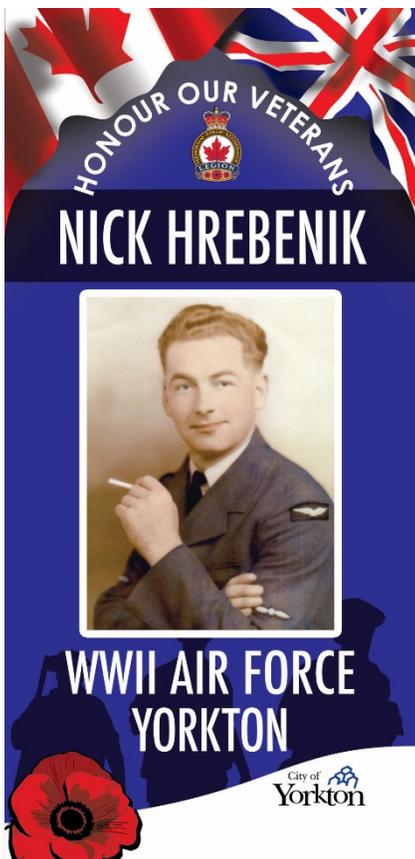
Nick Hrebenik
WWII, Air Force

Nick Hrebenik was born December 17, 1916, son of Michael and Eva Hrebenik of the Fone Hill area. He joined the RCAF in July of 1943, in Hamilton, Ontario, as an aircraft mechanic. He later signed up to go overseas but was not called before the war ended. He was honourably discharged on his birthday, December 17, 1945, with the rank of Leading Aircraftman, and a Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. He returned to the Yorkton area and bought a farm east of Dunleath. He and his wife, Julie (Kolenchuk), were blessed with two girls: Shirley and Bonnie. After Julie's passing in 1986, Nick moved to Yorkton where he enjoyed building and fixing things in his shop. He passed away September 7, 2006.

Honoured by daughters Shirley (Jim) Huziak and Bonnie (Jim) Starritt and family
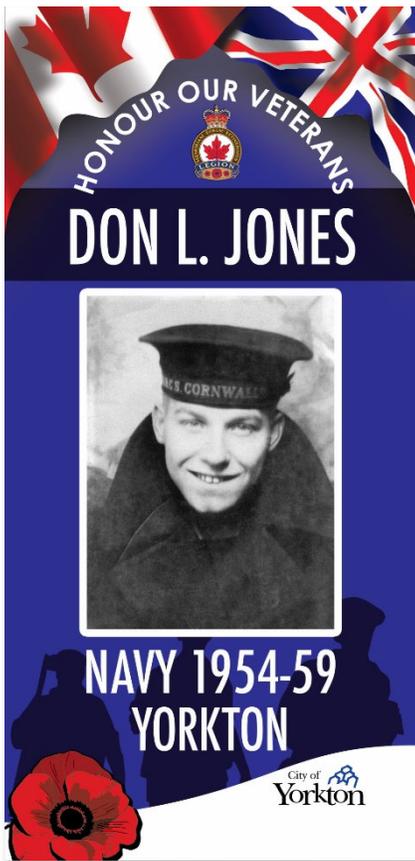
Don L. Jones
1954-1959, Navy

Don was born April 20, 1937, in Yorkton. He went to school until Gr. 9, during which time he completed his training with the Royal Canadian Army Cadets. He volunteered for the Navy in 1954, serving until 1959. He served at sea from 1956 to 1959. During the Cold War, Don was on many trips up and down the West Coast from Esquimalt to Alaska on anti-submarine patrols. He also served on the HMCS Athabaskan and the HMCS Jonquiere with runs between Hawaii, Philippines, China and San Francisco. He was on many NATO exercises. Don was awarded his first good conduct badge in October 1957. After his honourable discharge, he served in the R.C.N.R. (Royal Canadian Naval Reserve). After his service, he moved back to Yorkton, and was employed at a variety of jobs. In 1963, he met Margaret Williams. They were married in 1965 and were blessed with two children. He then took a Nursing Assistant Program in Saskatoon. Following his graduation, he worked at the Yorkton Union Hospital until his retirement. Don passed away in 2011.

Honoured by Margaret, Lisa and Graig Jones
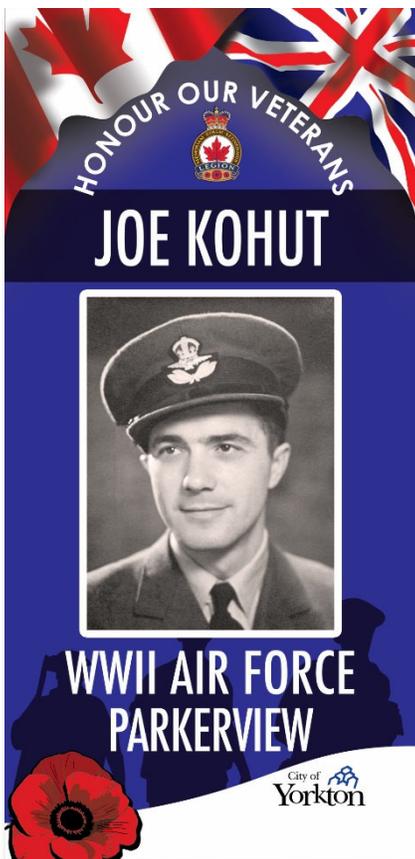
Joe Kohut
WWII, Air Force

This young man was born in Western Ukraine on November 12, 1916, and came to Canada with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Kohut, who settled on a farm in the Parkerview district in 1923. At Parkerview, he received his early education and his Grade 12 at Sheho. In 1937, he came to Yorkton to take a business course at Success Business College. Later, he accepted employment in Toronto. In March 1941, Joe joined the R.C.A.F. in Trenton, Ontario, Portage la Prairie and Macdonald, Manitoba. He received his Navigator's Wing at Macdonald, on December 24, 1941. On January 26, 1942, he went overseas and was attached to an R.A.F. Squadron. He was promoted to the rank of Flight Sergeant. In September of that year, he was promoted to the rank of Pilot Officer. At first, Joe was flying in Sterlings and later switched to Lancasters. September 27 proved to be the most eventful day of his life. He was to receive a promotion to the rank of Flight Lieutenant, to lead a group of 700 bombers over Hanover in his 38th operational flight, and to be wounded. For his bravery, he was awarded the D.F.C. for "skill and devotion to duty".

Honoured by Iris Polegi
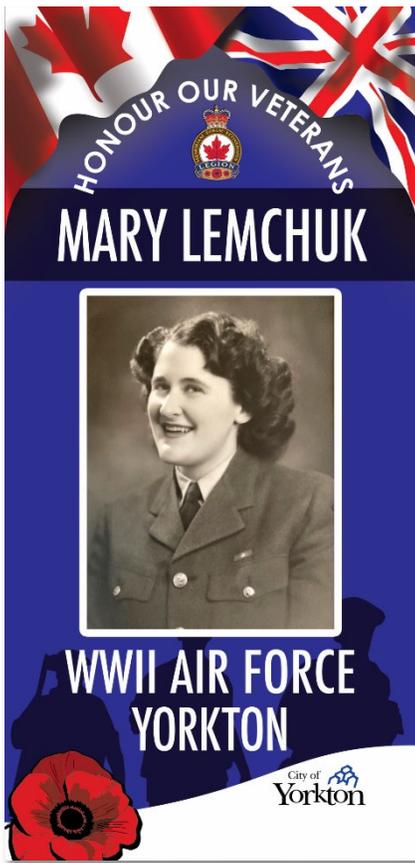
Mary A. Lemchuk
WWII, Air Force

Mary Lemchuk was born Mary Alice Maud Minnie Ritchie on August 12, 1923, on a farm NE of Earl Grey, SK, to John (Jack) Downie Ritchie and Mildred Ritchie. Mary joined the Air Force on October 2, 1943, and was honourably discharged to the Reserve, General Section, Class 5, in December 1946. During her service, she received a CVSM (Canadian Volunteer Service Medal) and clasp, and a War Medal. During her enrollment, she served in Ottawa, ON, Davidson, SK, and London, England. Mary was with the No. 2 Air Command RCAF and was discharged as LAW M.A. Ritchie. After her discharge, Mary enrolled in Nursing in Yorkton, graduating in 1950. She was married on November 11, 1951, to area farmer Steve Lemchuk. They were blessed with 4 daughters, 3 grandsons, and 4 great-grandchildren. Mary passed away on July 19, 2006.

*Honoured by Diane Stadnyk, Myrna Pelletier, Laurel Lemchuk-Favel, Gwen Carr*
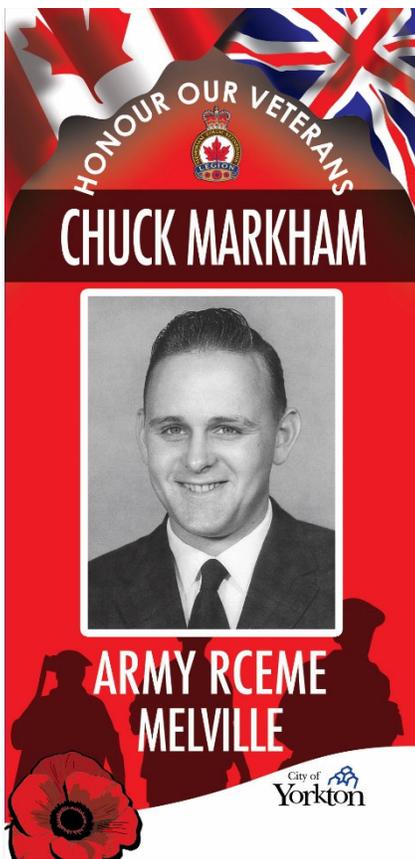
Charles W. (Chuck) Markham
Army

Lance Corporal Charles (Chuck) Markham, RCME, was born in Melville on December 12, 1941. He enlisted in the Canadian Army in 1957, trained as a Soldier Apprentice at Kingston, Ontario, and was later stationed in Montreal. He moved to CJATC Rivers, Manitoba, in March of 1964. Tragically, Chuck lost his life on May 11, 1965, at the age of 24, following a car accident near Brandon, Manitoba. He left behind a young wife, an infant son, and a huge loving family to mourn his loss. Chuck was laid to rest in the Soldier plot of the Yorkton cemetery with full military honours. Members of CJATC Rivers formed the Guard of Honour and Firing Party and members of the No. 1 Transport Helicopter Platoon, Rivers Camp, served as pallbearers.

*Honoured by his widow, son, brothers and sisters and their families*
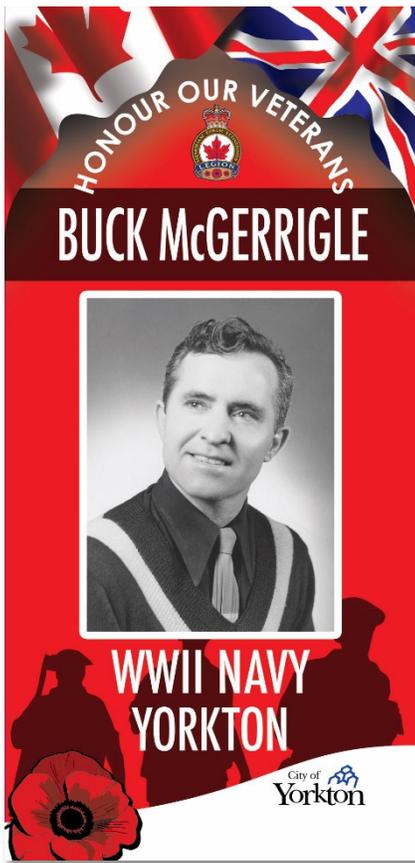
Albert John (Buck) McGerrigle
WWII, Navy

Albert John "Buck" McGerrigle was born on September 16, 1924, in Stenen, SK. At age 17, in 1942, he joined the Navy. He saw duty in the North Atlantic, serving on ships such as sweepers, corvettes, frigates, and miners, including HMCS Chicoutimi and HMCS Buckingham. He was discharged in October 1945. Buck had a sense of humour and a never-ending supply of corny jokes. He loved to dance, especially the jitterbug and jive. He was an avid sportsman, enjoying baseball, curling and golf when he returned home after the war. After discharge, he took an electrical and mechanical course, and then worked at a dealership in Stenen for 24 years. He married Mary Boyko on June 18, 1949, and was father to four children - Ross, Patric, Debra and Kelly. Buck and family moved to Yorkton in 1971, where he was very active in community charities and volunteer work. He was an active member of the Legion and the Army & Navy for many years. Buck passed away on May 27, 2002.

*Honoured by his widow Mary, and children Ross, Patric and Debra McGerrigle*
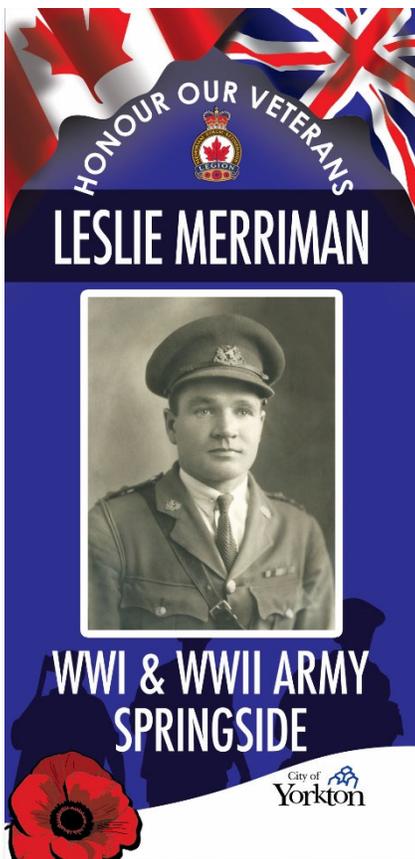
Thomas L. Merriman
WW I and II, Army

Leslie was born in Chippen Campden, Gloucestershire, England on January 22, 1899. He joined the 188th Battalion on March 10, 1916 and was discharged on April 24, 1919. He then joined the 16/22 Saskatchewan Horse on July 24, 1940. He was discharged on March 23, 1942, after serving in England, France, Germany, Belgium and Canada. He received the General Service and Victory Award in World War I and the Voluntary Service Award in World War II. He received his Life Membership in the Legion on September 21, 1964, and at that time he was Commander of Zone 5, District 6, and had many happy memories of visiting all branches in the zone twice a year. Upon returning from World War II, Leslie married Rose Ellen Smith (Nellie) on December 19, 1928, and they raised three children, Douglas, Joan and Barry in the Springside area. His wife passed away on December 9, 1970 and Leslie passed away on November 8, 1981. Both are interred in the Springside cemetery.

Honoured by his family

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
ALFRED MILBRANDT
WWI ARMY
SPRINGSIDE
City of Yorkton
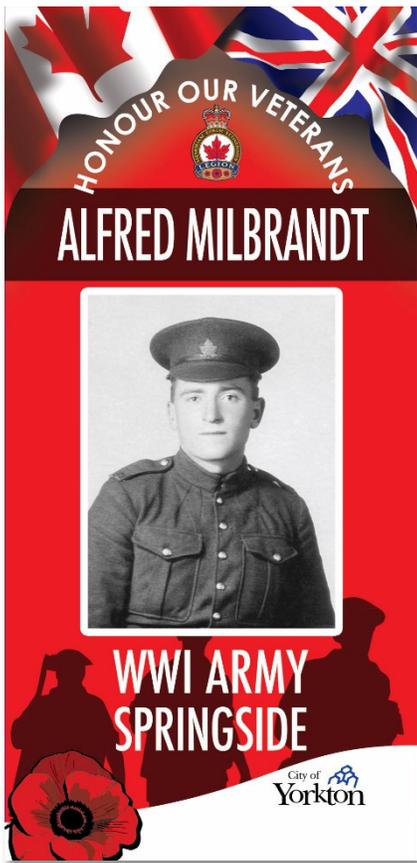
Alfred Milbrandt
WWI, Army

Alfred Milbrandt was born in Ebenezer in 1894 and enlisted in the army in 1915. He was initially in the 15th Battalion. This was later absorbed by the 48th Highlanders. He sailed to England, October 1916, and went into battle January 4, 1917, in Vimy. Alfred went over Vimy Ridge in the first wave on April 9, 1917. He also fought at Bally, France, and helped hold the line at Calonne, France, ending his career in the 188th Battalion. He was wounded and taken to England to recover enough to return home, August 1917, still with shrapnel close to his heart.

*Honoured by the family of Wendy Schmidt and the Milbrandt family*

HONOUR OUR VETERANS
JOHN MOLNAR
WWII ARMY
YORKTON
City of Yorkton
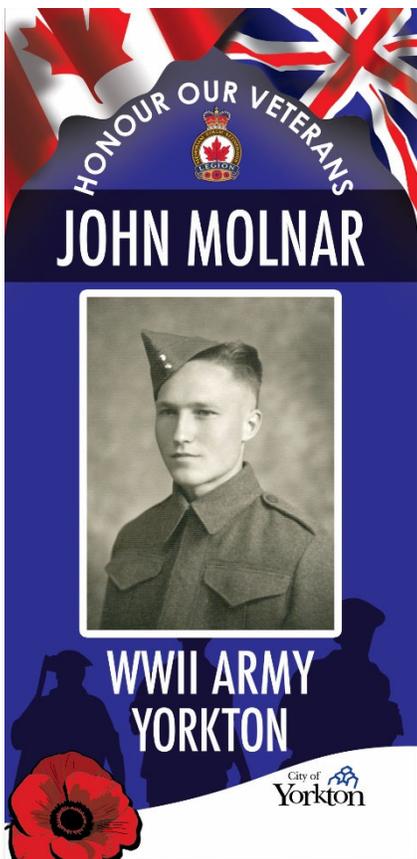
John Peter Molnar
WWII, Army

John Molnar was enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces, April 10, 1942, where he served overseas during WWII in the United Kingdom and Continental Europe. When the war ended, he was serving in Holland. John received the France and Germany Star and the Holland Medal in 2003. After the war, John married Ruth Hickie in 1959, and together, they were blessed with three children. John received a Certificate with Honours in Automotive Engineering. He then pursued further education and received a Certificate in Local Administration where he obtained employment as an accounting clerk for the Department of Highways and the Department of Social Services. While in the armed services, John was a trained bugler. When John passed away in 2004, the Legion Rites were performed at the cemetery, and the Last Post was played with the same bugle John kept from when serving overseas.

*Honoured by daughter Janice Flaman and family*
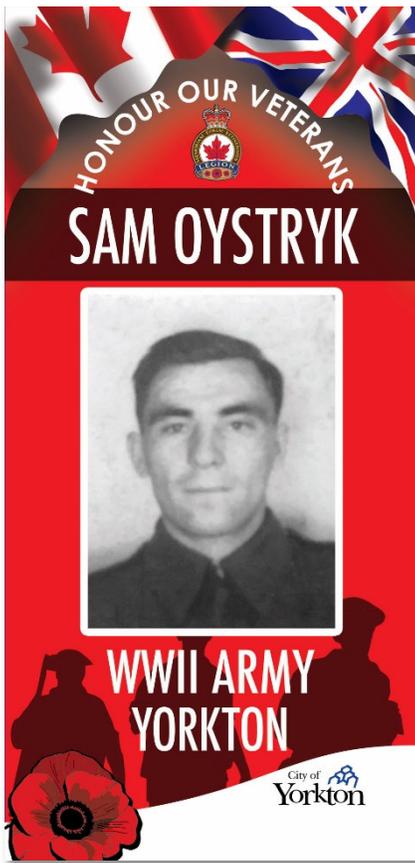
Sam Oystryk
WWII, Army

Sam Oystryk, born March 8, 1922, in the Dneiper district, north of Yorkton, SK, was raised on the family farm and joined the army in January 1943. He was deployed from Nanaimo to England, and as a member of the Canadian Infantry, served in Holland (Netherlands), Belgium and France. When Sam's tour of duty ended, he returned on the Queen Mary, via New York, to Regina. Upon discharge in April 1946, Sam was employed in Alberta and BC, before settling into farming in the Hamton and Rhein districts. He married Alice Zukiwsky and raised two daughters. Ever proud of his service, Sam disclosed very few details of his war experiences. He passed away on January 5, 2019.

Honoured by his family
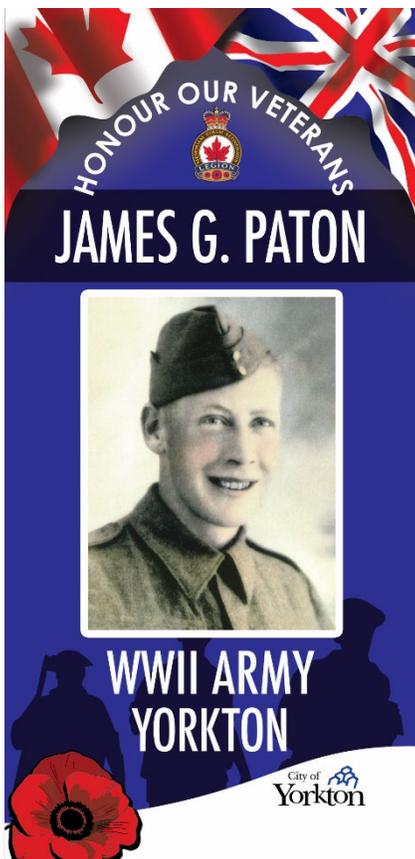
James Gilbert Paton
WWII, Army

James Paton was born in Gravelbourg, SK, April 30, 1918. He enlisted into the army in Regina, on June 20, 1940. In December of that year, he boarded a ship called the Cape Town Castle, destined for Europe. The journey took 12 days, and eventually landed in Greenock, Scotland. He then boarded the train to Sussex, South England. After joining the 6th Field Artillery, 2nd Division, he was trained on the Bren Gun Carrier and tanks. On June 6, 1944, D-Day, they crossed the channel. They stayed on the water for a few days, and then landed in Juno Beach. James was wounded in France, on Sept. 25, 1944. Once out of the field hospital, he then went into the 3rd Division, 12 Field Artillery, driving the Bren Gun Carrier. His job was to travel ahead and then radio back the location.

When the war was declared over, Paton was sent to Wilhelmshaven, Germany, which was a seaport and submarine base. He soon signed up to go fight in Japan, and so was shipped out to London where they remained for a week or so. The bomb was then dropped in Japan, and that part of the war was also over. James got back to Canada in September 1945.

Honoured by the Paton family
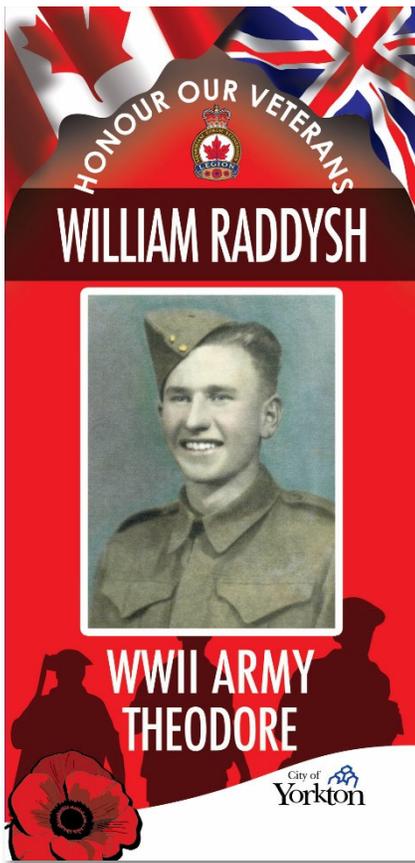
William Raddysh
WWII, Army

Lance Corporal William Raddysh (Oct. 11, 1919 - Dec. 3, 2017) was born on the family farm in the Theodore district. He attended Caldervale School up to Gr. 8. On April 16, 1941, at age 21, he joined the Canadian Army. He enlisted on Jan. 6, 1942, in Victoria, B.C., and served as Military Police. William was stationed in Canada and the United Kingdom. During his service, he received the Defense medal and the Canadian Volunteer Service medal. William was honourably discharged on Feb. 15, 1946. He then returned to the family farm. William was a member of Theodore Legion Branch #34.

Honoured by his niece Pamela Raddysh, RCAF 2LT
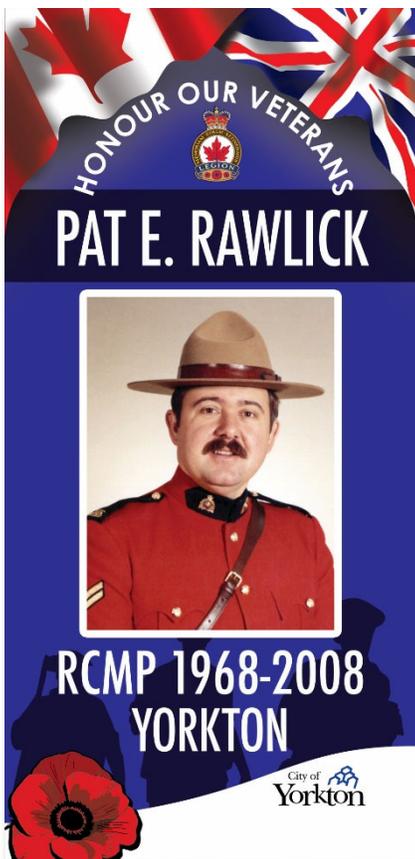
Pat Rawlick
RCMP

Pat E. Rawlick (#26330) began his service as a member of the RCMP in January 1968 and retired in April 2008. Pat remained in the "F" Division (Saskatchewan) for his entire forty years of service and was fortunate enough to call over ten communities his home. Pat Rawlick retired as a Staff Sergeant and member of the District Management Team for Southern Saskatchewan.

Honoured by the Rawlick family
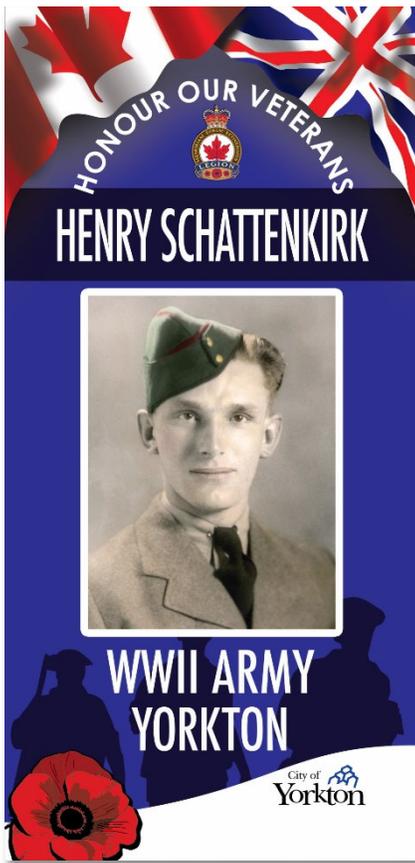
Henry Schattenkirk
WWII, Army

Henry (Hank) Schattenkirk was born in Springside, SK, on Mar. 12, 1918. At the age of 21, he enlisted into the army in January 1939. He began service at the rank of Rifleman. Upon discharge, after seven years of service, it was believed he held the rank of Regimental Sergeant Major. Henry was very private about his time in the military. He was discharged on March 4, 1946, to return to civilian life as a carpenter.

Honoured by great-nephew Dale Schattenkirk
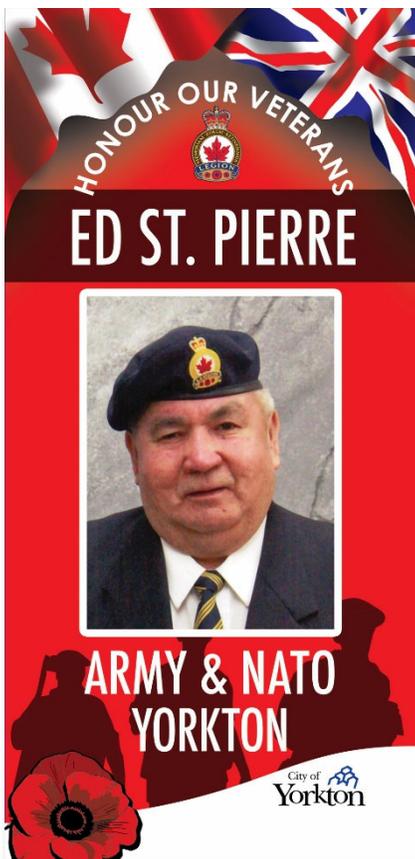
Ed St. Pierre
NATO and Army

Ed St. Pierre was born in 1937, in Crescent Lake, SK, and spent his youth there and at Pebble Lake. In 1950, at 17, he joined the NATO Special Forces in Central Europe where he served for three years. He was a member of the infantry where he worked as an anti-tank gunner and with long-range artillery weaponry. He then served in the regular forces in Germany and Canada as an Army Warrant Officer. Ed was awarded the Canadian Decoration medal and Honourable Service medal. After his military service, he worked for Veterans Affairs and thereafter, the militia for thirteen years. Ed is a Life member of the Yorkton Legion, holding, over the years, the positions of Parade Marshal, Service Officer, several executive positions up to the 1st Vice President, and then Branch President. Ed has been active in the Yorkton community, donating time to many causes, including Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Board and Native Employment Development.

Honoured by the Royal Canadian Legion General Alexander Ross Branch No. 77
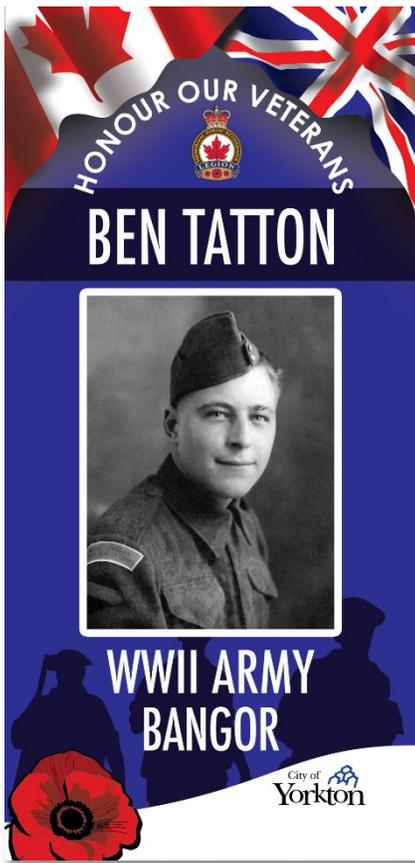
Ben Tatton
WWII, Army

Born July 1924, near Bangor, Ben was the youngest son of Frederick James and Eliza Jane (Atkey) Tatton. Ben attended Aston School with his sister, Vera and brothers, Lester, Leonard and Clarence. Another brother had died in infancy. Eliza was proud that all her sons served in the war effort. Ben joined the army and was overseas before his 18th birthday. He served in France and Holland. After the war, Ben farmed near Tantallon, SK. Ben married Mabel Irving in 1947, and they had one son, Gilford, born in 1950. Ben died in a tractor accident in July 1955, at the age of 31.

Honoured by the Tatton family
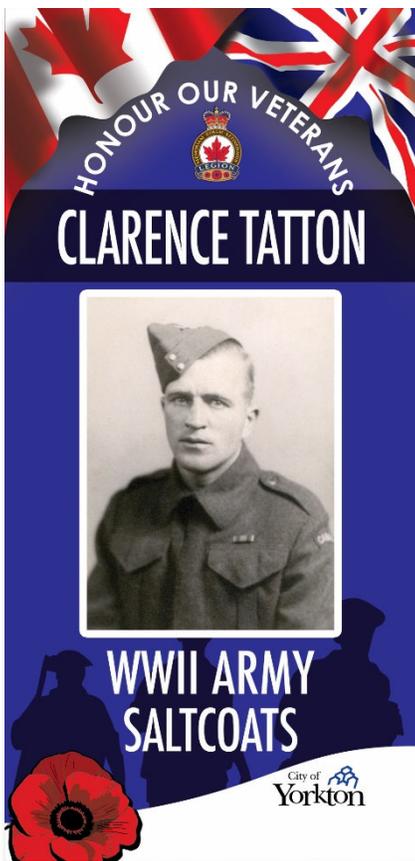
Clarence Tatton
WWII, Army

Clarence Tatton was born on the family farm near Bangor on March 24, 1916, along with his twin brother, Leonard, the sons of Frederick James and Eliza Jane (Atkey) Tatton. At the beginning of WWII, he joined the Royal Canadian Army and served overseas as a Dispatch Rider and Signalman in the Signal Corps. Clarence served in several locations in parts of England, including Pett Level, where he met and married June Eileen Parsons, in 1944. After arriving in Canada, Clarence and June produced seven children - Eileen, Ronald (Ron), Sheila, Keith, Larry, William (Bill), and Carolyn. Clarence saw action in several battles including the Battle of the Bulge and the liberation of Holland. He was shot on two occasions - once in the foot and once in the leg. He was also in a serious motorcycle accident during a blackout. He was hospitalized on all three occasions but returned to duty until he was demobilized to Canada. After the war Clarence farmed in the Perley District until 1960. He then moved to Yorkton and worked for Atlas Concrete until 1965, at which time he moved to Vancouver Island. He died on Feb. 21, 1971, at the age of 54. He is interred in Cedar Memorial Gardens, Nanaimo, BC.

Honoured by the Tatton family
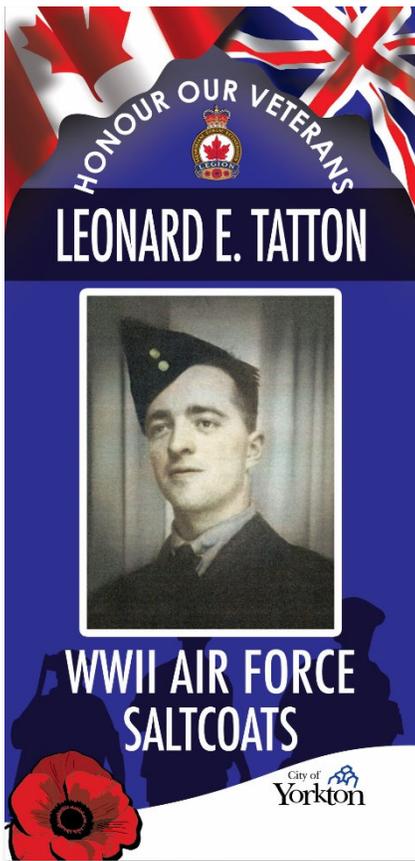
Leonard Tatton
WWII, RCAF

Leonard (Len) Tatton was born on March 24, 1916, along with his twin brother, Clarence, the sons of Fredrick James and Eliza Jane (Atkey) Tatton. On December 4, 1941, he joined the RCAF and served on active duty on the West Coast on maintenance, operating heavy machinery, building roads and runways on deserted islands to protect the country. He spent 18 months on Bella Bella Island and quite a bit of time at Prince Rupert, Queen Charlotte Islands, and Abbotsford. On October 30, 1945, he was honourably released and transferred to the Reserve General Section. He married Betty Belloy in 1948, and they had two children - a son, Terry, in 1952, and a daughter, Gail, in 1954. Leonard farmed until 1995 when he retired and continued to be an active member of his community. He passed away December 4, 2005, at the age of 89, surrounded by his loved ones. He is laid to rest in Saltcoats.

Honoured by the Tatton family
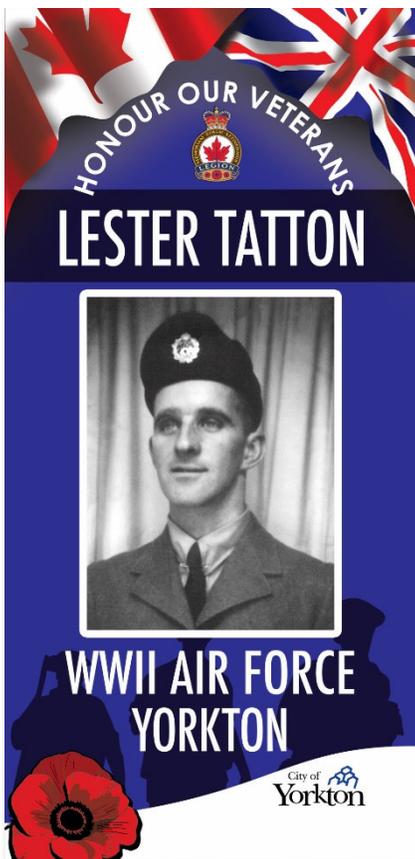
Lester Tatton
WWII, RCAF

Lester Tatton was born January 1914, near Bangor, the son of Frederick James and Eliza Jane (Atkey) Tatton. He attended Aston School with his sister, brothers, and cousins. Lester took basic training in Brandon, Manitoba. He served in B.C. at Alliford Bay, on the Queen Charlotte Islands, Terrace, Prince Rupert, Comox, Spider Island, and then again Comox until the end of the war. In Octobe 1945, Lester began to work for Morris Rod Weeder in a small shop in Bangor. He married Gertrude Michael in 1946. Lester and Gertie had one son, Earl, born in 1954. They moved to Yorkton with the Morris Rod Weeder company in 1948. Lester retired in May 1982. He died April 2010, at the age of 96, and was laid to rest in Yorkton.

Honoured by the Tatton family
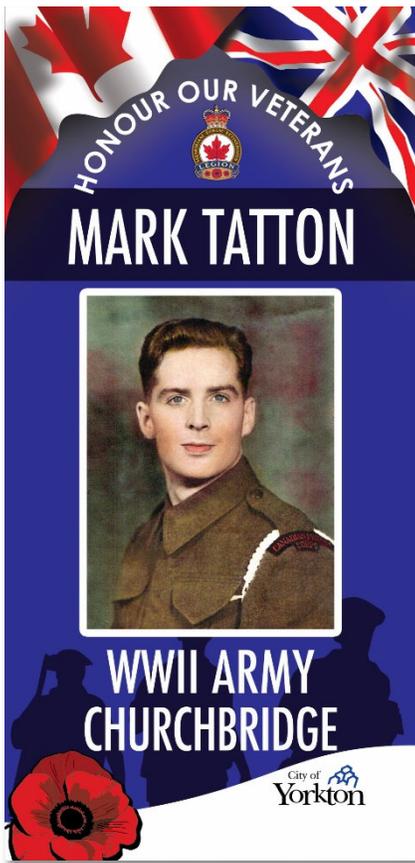
Mark Tatton
WWII, Army

Mark Tatton was born December 28, 1919, at the family farm in the Aston district. He was the second son of Edward and Edith (Colbeck) Tatton. He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Engineers and was transferred to #6 Canadian Provost Corps before departing to England in 1941. Mark was transferred to the #9 Field Company and was stationed in London and other parts of England. There, he met Joy (Lumley), and married her in London in 1944. After returning to the farm, they had a daughter, Shirley (1947), and later, a son, Derek (1955). In 1955, they moved to Waldron where he worked for the Good Hope and District Telephone Co. In 1962, they moved to Churchbridge and he became employed by IMC Canada. He died March 13, 2007, at the age of 87, and was laid to rest in Churchbridge.

Honoured by the Tatton family
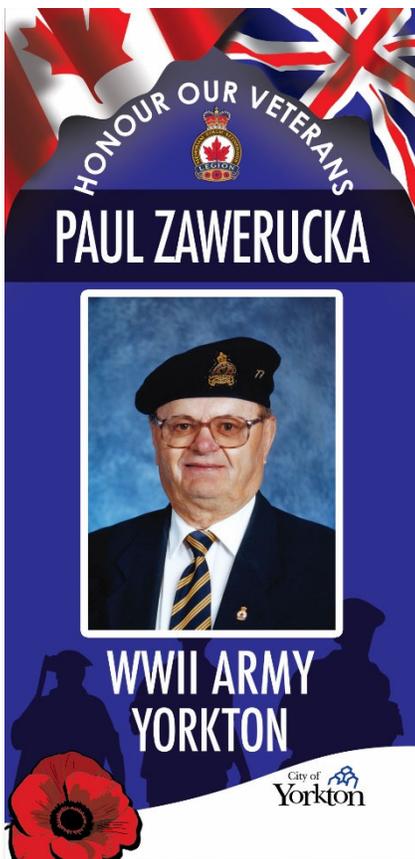
Paul A. Zawerucka
WWII, Army

Paul Zawerucka was born July 12, 1920, in the Preeceville District. On March 12, 1942, he joined the army in Regina. After one month of training, he was transferred to Prince Albert Volunteers where he was assigned to a cook's position. Shortly after, he was sent on a two-week cook's course at Dundurn Camp. Now, as a tradesman, he belonged to the unit by the name of the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps (R.C.A.S.C.) stationed in Vernon and Terrace, B.C. He left the P.A. Volunteers and joined the Winnipeg Grenadiers, going overseas and ending up at a repatriation camp at Aldershot, continuing on as a cook. Later, he was sent on a three-week cook's course in Brighton, a tough course meant for the front lines, which he passed. After the war ended, he was sent to London, England, to join the Canadian Red Cross staff to cook for war brides, which lasted 1.5 years. He was discharged from the army on November 28, 1946. He married and settled in Yorkton where he and his wife raised four children. Paul was a life member of the General Alexander Ross Branch #77 Yorkton.

Honoured by his family