

Alcock, Wilfred Reginald

Private

Royal Regiment of Canada

Royal Canadian Infantry Corps

H54839



Wilfred Reginald Alcock was born on June 16, 1909 in Kenora, Northern Ontario to George Hedley Alcock (1885-1967) and Clara Folster (1889-1962) who married in 1907. Wilfred had four brothers George (1908), Francis (1912), Edward (1913) and Leonard (1917) as well as a sister, Eva (1915). He belonged to the United Church and lived at 117 Melick Avenue, Kenora Ontario.



Wilfred worked initially as a farmer for his father from 1922 to 1928. He then worked at the Kenora Paper Mill as a millhand for 12 years where in the summer he worked on the log boom and in the winter in the woods.

Wilfred married Annie Margeret James and they had a daughter named Laura who was born on April 16th, 1938.

Wilfred with his daughter Laura.



Wilfred enlisted on August 5, 1940 in Kenora, Ontario with the Rocky Mountain Rangers. He is described as being 6 foot, weighing 170 pounds and having blue eyes. His basic training was taken with the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) attached to the 37th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery. He was trained as a gunner at an artillery centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Wilfred left Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on December 14, 1940 and arrived in Glasgow, Scotland on Dec 25, 1940. He was assigned as a gunner with the RCA's 54th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery and later with the 7th Light Anti-Aircraft Battery. While he was serving in the United Kingdom, he was awarded the Good Conduct badge. He took a telephonist course while stationed in Gillingham, England.

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(1) SOLDIER'S NAME AND DESCRIPTION ON ATTESTATION

Regtl No. *H. 54839.*

Surname (in capitals) *ALCOCK.*

Christian Names (in full) *Wilfred Reginald.*

Date of Birth *6 June 1909.*

Place of Birth *Kenora Ontario.*

Citizenship *Canadian.*

Trade on Enlistment *Labourer.*

Nationality of Father at birth *Canadian*

Nationality of Mother at birth *Canadian*

Religion *United Church.*

Enlisted at *Aug. 6 - 1940.*

Date *Kenora, Ontario*

Particulars of former service (if any) i.e. Regtl No., Corps and period. *nil.*

Signature of Soldier *W. Alcock*

Signature of Officer *[Signature]*

Place *Field.* Date *11 Jan 45*

Transferred to the Royal Regiment of Canada, Private Alcock disembarked in France on October 6th, 1944. He was injured on November 10 and was discharged on November 25 returning to combat duty. During the Operation Veritable, the Royal Regiment was involved in the Allied attack on German strongholds along the Goch-Calcar Road.

Private Wilfred Alcock, 35 years of age, was killed on February 19, 1945 in battle. He was buried in a temporary grave in Cleve, Germany.

NO. H. 54839 Rank Private Name ALCOCK, Wilfred Reginald
 Unit Royal Regt. of Canada Date of death 19th Feb., 1945
 Died at Germany
 Cause Killed in action
 Death occurred on strength of Forces H.Q. 405-A-6779
 N/K Mrs. Annie M. Alcock, Relationship Wife
 Address Box 84, Kenora, Ontario.
 Remains buried in Germany Cleve Cem Cleve 893562 R.A. Cemetery Gr. 14
 Grave location ~~CHK~~ OVER

His remains were later moved to Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery in the Netherlands. He is buried at Groesbeek, grave reference: **XXI. A. 11.**

The inscription on his headstone reads:

“LEFT HOME, KIN AND FRIENDS TO DEFEND FREEDOM YOU GAVE YOUR ALL ALWAYS DAUGHTER LAURA”

Wilfred Reginald Alcock was awarded posthumously these medals:

- The 1939-1945 Star
- France-Germany Star
- Defence Medal
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp.



FACES TO GRAVES

Stichting Faces to Canadian War Graves Groesbeek

Biography: Uber Ajogno, student from All Saints H.S., Kanata, Canada for Faces to Graves, courtesy of Vanessa Kirtz, All Saints H.S.

Additional research and editing provided by Kurt Johnson.

Sources:

Photos courtesy of granddaughter Colleen Poschner
Commonwealth War Graves Commission
Virtual War memorial
Ancestry

Letter 20 April 1944.

Recd 20th 19.4.44. H54239. Home with almost.
F. Bty. J.C.A.R.U. Canadian army over seas.
Dear Aunt, just a few lines to let you know
that I am still the same old Bill and I am
able to eat and kick yet. Well Aunt tot
just got a letter from you to day. I was
glad to here from you again thanks for the
and also the nice little parcel you sent
I got the parcel about a week ago. I havent got the
Cigaretts yet. But I think they will come one of
these days. I am going to write you to night.
as you sent me his adress. I was shure glad of that
thanks for it. Well Aunt tot how are all the
people up at show lake. I hope that they are all
fine and in the best of health. you told me that
Dot's baby is getting to be a big girl now.
I am glad of that. How is Uncle John now?
I bet he is busy now making fish boxes.
I shure would like to be up at show lake now.
But when I get back I am going up there to
have a darn good time. And I hope that all
will be there. And what a time we will have.
you said that you expected Charley to be called
at any time. I hope that he dont. At this
place is no place for a married man.
and you can tell Dot to try and keep him as
long as she can. There has been a bunch of
Boys just come from Canada yesterday. I wonder
how they will like it over here. I havint
been talking to them yet. Well Aunt tot
the damn paper is getting short now
so I think I will have to close soon.