

Alguire, Wesley Oscar

Private

**Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry
Highlanders**

Royal Canadian Infantry Corps

9th Battalion

C/54127



Wesley Oscar Alguire was born October 18, 1905 at Eamer's Corners in Cornwall Township, in Eastern Ontario. He was the son of Christy Anne (Clarke) and Harmonious Alguire. Wesley's two brothers were Russell and Reubin Cain while his four sisters were Pearl (Coleman), Ida (Clark), Stella (Boal) and Mahlon (Kyer). While growing up in Cornwall township, he attended Eamer's Corners school, Cornwall public school and Cornwall collegiate and vocational school. After his schooling, he became a truck driver and then worked on the family farm for 18 years.



Wesley married Ida Pearl McNamara of Finch on May 16th, 1925 at St. John Presbyterian Church in Cornwall, Ontario. The couple had eight children whose names were Iris, Arlen, Lois, Keith, Susie, Kenneth, Katheryne and Claude. At the time of his enlistment, the family lived at 442-3rd St. East, Cornwall, Ontario.

1925 May 16, wedding Wesley and Ida



Wesley and Ida and the two oldest children, Iris and Arlen-1928



Private Alguire's wife Ida and their eight children between the ages of two to 16 years.

Iris and her Dad before he went overseas.

On July 6, 1940. Wesley enlisted in the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders regiment in the nearby town of Cornwall. According to his military records, he stood five foot seven inches and weighed 143 pounds with fair skin, blue eyes and red hair. He trained in Ottawa until December of 1940



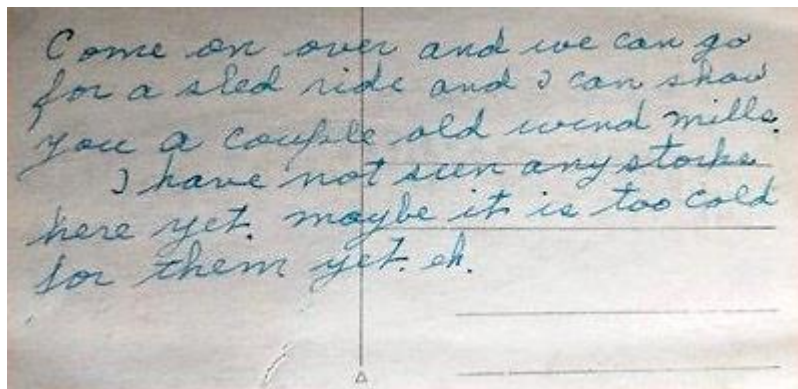
as well as in Cornwall, Kingston both in Ontario, and Debert in Nova Scotia. He then embarked to the United Kingdom arriving on July 31, 1941 at Avonmouth, England.

Initially, Private Alguire was sent to a RAF station for a month. Wesley qualified as a driver and was awarded a good conduct badge. He then qualified as a driver mechanic for group C. He remained in England until June 13 1944 when he left for France.



Throughout the next eight months, Private Alguire travelled across Northwest Europe with his regiment as the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders fought through France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

Postcard he did sent to his daughter Iris



On February 24, 1945, Private Alguire died in Germany from the wounds he received in the battle, near Udem. He was 39 years old. The soldier was placed in a temporary burial ground at Bedburg, Germany, but was later moved to Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.

Colonel Rowley returned to the Battalion from a press conference in Paris on the 22nd February and a series of meetings took place with regard to Operation Blockbuster. Roads were still flooded and many of them were mined, so the daily despatch of supplies of food and ammunition to the companies was attended by both difficulty and danger; the drivers took tremendous risks. C.S.M. "Frosty" Campbell, who had voluntarily assumed the task of driving a supply jeep through the dangerous terrain was killed by a mine near Udem at 14.00 hours on the 24th February. The whole Battalion felt the loss of this indomitable soldier. Other grievous losses at this period were Privates H. O. Berry, W. O. Alguire and K. Barr.



Eamer's Corners Boy

WESLEY O. ALGUIRE

Pte. Wesley Oscar Alguire, youngest son of Harmonious Alguire, and the late Mrs. Alguire, was born at Eamer's Corners on October 18, 1905, and educated at Eamer's Corners School, Cornwall Public School and the C.C.V.S. during the time he resided in Cornwall with his parents. He was engaged at farm work when he enlisted in the S.D. and G. Highlanders on July 6, 1940, training in Cornwall, Kingston, Ottawa and Debert, N.S., before he proceeded to the eastern coast and overseas the latter part of August, 1941. Pte. Alguire has spent four Christmas seasons away from his wife and family. His first army Christmas he spent in the Military Hospital, Ottawa, and the last three "Somewhere in England." His wife, the former Miss Ida McNamara, of Finch, and their eight children, four boys and four girls, are now residing at 442 Third street East, Cornwall.

Pte. Alguire is now in R.C.O.C. overseas. In recent letters he reports he is well and healthy, and always asks in his letters about all his Cornwall and vicinity friends. Pte. Alguire sent his thanks to the S.D. and G., Ladies' Auxiliary for parcels and also all other clubs and individuals who have sent him parcels and letters. He would like more letters from his friends here at home. He sent special thanks to Rev. G. S. Lloyd and Dr. and Mrs. Claude M. Hall.

Both of his parents had died in Canada when Private Alguire was serving overseas. His mother Christy died in May of 1943 while father, Harmonious, died in April 1944.

The family of Wesley Alguire received his war medals:

- 1939-45 Star
- France and Germany Star
- Defence Medal
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp

Private Wesley Oscar Alguire is buried at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, grave reference **X. G. 13.**

Inscribed on his gravestone is:

HE SAVED OTHERS
HIMSELF HE COULD NOT SAVE
EVER REMEMBERED
BY HIS WIFE AND FAMILY

Cornwall Church Honors War Dead

CORNWALL, Nov. 9.—(Special)—In the presence of a large congregation an impressive ceremony was carried out this morning in St. John's Presbyterian church when the unveiling and dedication of three memorial windows took place.

These windows were arranged for by members of the congregation as a memorial to those who made the supreme sacrifice in the two great wars—eight in the 1914-1918 conflict and 17 in the recent war, 1939-1945.

The impressive service was conducted by Rev. G. S. Lloyd; the Old Testament lesson was read by Lieut. Col. George D. Gillie, MC, a veteran of the First World War and the New Testament lesson by Flying Officer Cecil W. Moore, both members of St. John's Church.

The unveiling was carried out by Lieut.-Col. G. Neil Phillips and Bernard Grant, both of whom lost sons in the recent war.

A lament was played by pipe Major Albert G. Sutherland, while the Last Post and Reveille were sounded by bugler Ian D. McLaren.

A sermon appropriate to the solemn occasion was delivered by Rev. Mr. Lloyd.

Names of those who made the supreme sacrifice during the 1914-18 conflict are: Murdoch John Munroe; Donald Malcolm Munroe; David MacFarlane Moore; William Arthur Stoddart; William Wallace Watson; Hugh James M. Campbell; William Russell; Clifford A. Grant.

Those in 1939-45 are: James Hermon Shaver; John Bernie Dougall; Gordon MacLean Phil-

of Ottawa's corners and by others selling wreaths and poppies in government and other buildings before Saturday. Receipts from the sale of wreaths and from some store booths have yet to be included in this figure.

Tag Day officials last night extended thanks to the taggers for their efforts and good spirit. "They carried on in dreadful weather," a Canadian Legion representative said.

In addition to the 1,200 taggers, whose ages ranged from 13 to 18 years, the officials' thanks were addressed to the Overseas Wives Group which manned the corner of Bank and Queen streets, the Boy Scouts and the school teachers who supervised the depots set up in local stores.

Poppies will be on sale again Tuesday at the National Remembrance service on Parliament Hill.

Funds derived from the poppy sale are distributed to the welfare funds of local Legion branches.

Over New York, Pl

Private Wesley Alguire's name appeared on the memorial window for a Cornwall Presbyterian Church.



A picture of Silver Cross Mothers who donated a chair to the General hospital, Cornwall. Wesley's wife Ida is seen second from the right.



Ida Alguire with the Memorial Cross.



FACES TO GRAVES

Stichting Faces to Canadian
War Graves Groesbeek

Biography: Mackenzie Gilmour and Sasha Ackehurst, students from All Saints High School, Kanata, Canada for Faces to Graves, courtesy of Vanessa Kirtz teacher at All Saints H.S., additional research and editing provided by Kurt Johnson.

Sources:

- Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Library, and Archives Canada
- Canadian Virtual war Memorial
- Pictures provided by Gregory Pollard and Bonnie Champagne
- Ottawa Citizen
- CBC
- With contribution Wigger van der Horst – Dutch Glen Historian

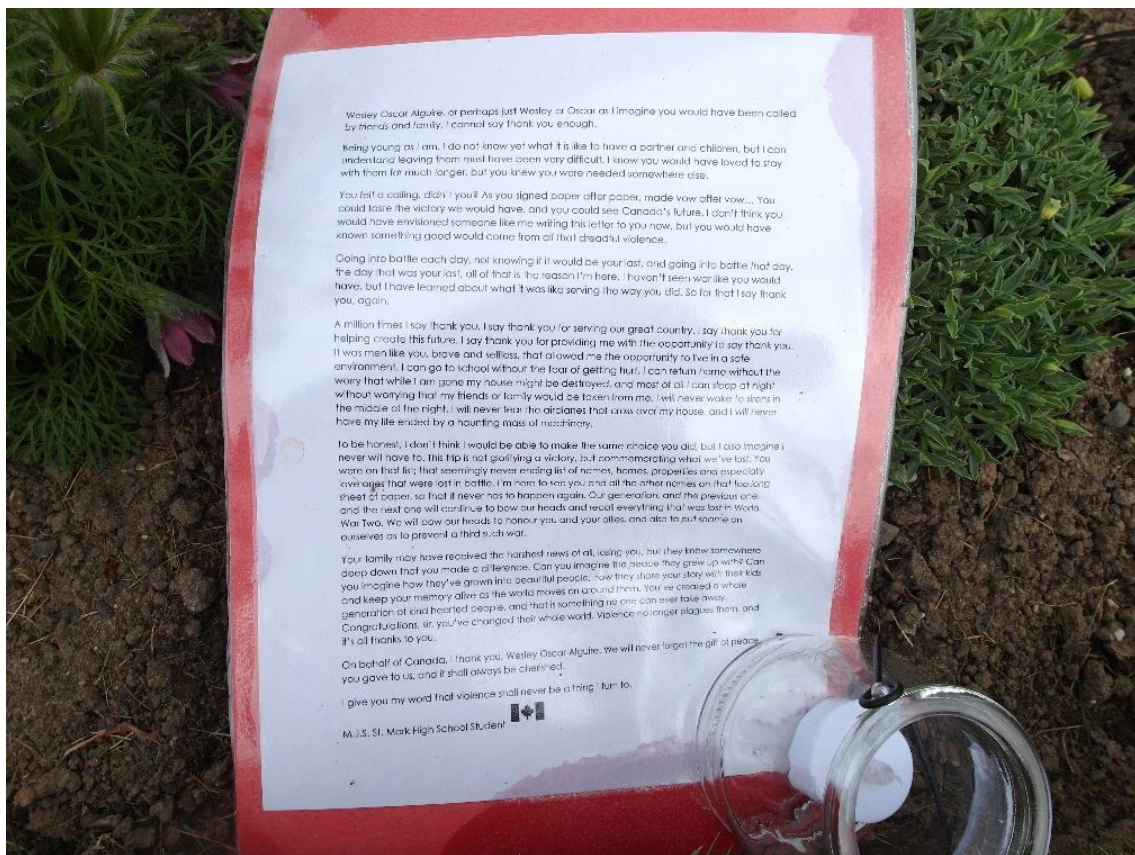
In memory of
Pte. Wesley Oscar Alguire
C 54127
Died on 24 February, 1945
Age 39

Son of
Harmonious and Christy Anne Alguire;
husband of Ida Pearl Alguire,
of Cornwall, Ontario.

Remembered with honour
Groesbeek
Canadian War Cemetery
Gelderland, Netherlands.

Private
Alguire Wesley Oscar

GLEN MEMORIAL



Cemetery find – photo Alice van Bekkum