

Amey, Harvey Herbert

Trooper

**29th Armoured Reconnaissance
Regt. (South Alberta Regiment)**

A 108854



SOUTH ALBERTA REGIMENT
(29th Cdn Arm'd Recce Regt.)



Harvey Herbert Amey was born April 13th, 1910 in Owen Sound, Ontario to James Wesley Amey (1872-1956) and Margaret Jane Skinner (1879-1970) . Harvey was one of nine children His siblings were Anson, George, Victor, Harold, Roy, Russell, Retta, Mabel and Flossie. His younger brothers Roy and Russell both fought overseas, too.

Harvey attended eight years of public school. After leaving school he worked at Columbia Handle Works in London as a foreman for 10 years.

On his enlistment in London on November 15, 1943, Harvey was 5 foot 3 ½ inches tall and weighed 117 pounds. He was described as having brown hair and brown eyes. He had already served as a member of an armoured regiment, the 1st Hussars, since October of 1942. Harvey was sent to Camp Borden where he qualified as a driver mechanic Group C (Tank).

Harvey married Audrey Ann Riddle in London on July 1, 1944 before embarking on July 21 by boat for overseas duty and arriving on July 28 in the United Kingdom. They had no children.

Harvey Amey stayed for a short time in England until his tank unit, the 29th Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment (South Alberta Regiment), was

sent on September 14, 1944 over to France to fight in the Battle of Normandy. The South Alberta tanks then fought through France, Belgium and the Netherlands. The unit participated in the liberation of many Dutch towns and in the Battle of the Scheldt. In January 1945, they took part in the Battle for the Kapelsche Veer.

As part of the Battle for the Rhineland, the South Alberta Regiment tanks began an assault deep into enemy territory at Kirsell near Udem.

Trooper Harvey Amey, 34, was killed on February 27, 1945 along with four other comrades-in-arms -- John Bartlett, Frederick Belsey, Harold Jacobsen and Captain Kenneth Perrin. They were buried in a temporary cemetery at Rhineland Kirsell, near Udem, Germany.

Trooper Amey received a good conduct badge and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp during his time in serving the military. After his death, his family received Trooper Amey's medals which were the 1939-1945 Star, the France-Germany Star and the War Medal.

Harvey Herbert Amey is buried at Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, grave reference **XXI. B. 15.**

On his gravestone, there is a quote/inscription that reads

"Many a silent tear is shed. Love, wife, mother, and father".



Biography: Jorja Burt, student from All Saints H.S., 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:

- * Library and Archives Canada, WWII Service Files of War Dead, 1939-1947
- * Veterans Affairs Canada, The Canadian Virtual War Memorial
- * Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Casualty file
- * The Official History of the Canadian Army in the Second World War, Vol III, The Victory Campaign. Pages 503-504.
- * Letter dated May 19, 1950 from H. M. Jackson, director of War Service Records, Ottawa
- * The Canadian Army, 1939-1945 : An Official Historical Summary



Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery.



The family headstone at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in London, Ontario acknowledges their son Harvey Amey.

His wife, Audrey Amey, planned a 1950 trip over to the Netherlands to visit her husband's grave in Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery. Mrs. Amey enquired about travel arrangements and permits in a foreign country. She received a letter from Ottawa, dated May 19, 1950, from H. M. Jackson, director of War Service Records.

"It is understood that from Groesbeek there is a splendid view of the Reichswald Forest where Trooper Amey met his death," wrote Mr. Jackson. "There are no restrictions on relatives visiting the resting places of their loved ones in war cemeteries overseas nor are any special permits required for entry to the cemeteries."

OTTAWA, 19th May, 1950.

DVA-A.108854 (R.4B)

Mrs. Audrey Amey,
66 Fullarton Street,
London, Ontario.

A.108854, Trooper Harvey H. AMEY

Dear Mrs. Amey:

This will acknowledge your letter of May 16th in which you say you are planning on going to Europe this summer and would like to visit your late husband's grave in Holland.


As you know, his remains are interred in plot 21, row B, grave 15, Nijmegen Canadian Cemetery, which is actually situated at Groesbeek, some five miles South-East of Nijmegen, almost on the border of Germany. It is understood that from Groesbeek there is a splendid view of the Reichs Wald Forest in the distance where Trooper Amey met his death.

There is really very little this Department can do to assist you on your journey abroad. You will, of course, have to make your own travel arrangements and any reliable travel agent will be able to give you all the details of what will be required. There are no restrictions on relatives visiting the resting places of their loved ones in war cemeteries overseas nor are any special permits required for entry to the cemeteries. You should have no difficulty finding your husband's grave once the burial ground has been reached as it is plainly marked and the plots and rows are clearly indicated.

As you are going to England first, it is suggested that you call at the office of the Imperial War Graves Commission, 32 Grosvenor Gardens, London S.W. 1. The officials there will, I feel sure, be glad to place at your disposal any relevant information which would be of interest and assistance. You could, too, call in at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Canada House, Trafalgar Square, London S.W. 1, where latest advice as to the best and most economical method of travel to Holland can be made available to you.

I might suggest further that before leaving you get in touch with the Secretary of the Netherlands War Graves Committee, 442 Keizersgracht, Amsterdam, Holland, as it is possible that that organization would welcome you as a guest, for a limited time, and make some accommodation arrangements for you.

Yours faithfully,


H.M. Jackson,
Director,
War Service Records.