

## **Biederman, Lloyd Arthur**

**Trooper**

**1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured Carrier  
Regiment**

**Royal Canadian Armoured Corps**

**B/155055**



Lloyd Arthur Biederman was born 15 September 1922 at Humberstone, now part of Port Colborne in the Niagara region of Ontario (ON). His father Charles Frederick Biederman was from Ontario of German descent and served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in World War One. Charles



Frederick married Lloyd's mother Edna Loreen Michener at Humberstone in 1921. Lloyd was their first of six children, followed by June, Dorothy, Charles (Junior), Maurice and Helen.

*Baby Lloyd Biederman held by his great-grandmother Anthes, mother Edna on left, grandmother Etta Michener on right*

The Biederman children were raised under Charles Frederick's Lutheran religion. His family had farmed in the area and he later gained employment with a coal company in Port Colborne as a shovel operator. Fishing was a popular family activity.

*Biederman kids L-R: Charles, Dorothy, Helen, June and Maurice*

Lloyd's sport as a boy was hockey, playing for Port Colborne in the Ontario Hockey Association. Lloyd completed two years of High School and was involved in their Cadet program. He attended



another year of night classes while working for Canada Cement as a tankman. He then took a job with Lannan Coal Company in Port Colborne, first working as a truck driver and then apprenticing as a crane operator. Lloyd had been there for almost two years when he was called up for home defence under the National Resources Mobilization Act.



*Lannan Coal Company Dock, Port Colborne, ON*

Lloyd enlisted at Toronto 17 October 1942. He was allocated to the Royal Canadian Artillery and sent to their School of Instruction at Esquimalt, British Columbia (BC). Lloyd was assigned to the 27<sup>th</sup> Anti Aircraft Regiment where he received basic and advanced training as a Gunner. He was then transferred to 9<sup>th</sup> Heavy Anti Aircraft Battery at Patricia Bay, Victoria, BC. Lloyd decided to go active, attesting at Victoria 26 August 1943, age 20. He was then 5'11" tall, 173 lbs with blue-grey eyes.



Lloyd was promoted to Lance Bombardier and sent to Prince Rupert, BC where he was attached to the 29<sup>th</sup> Anti Artillery Regiment 13 September 1943. He reverted rank to Gunner at his own request before returning to Ontario 7 December 1943 to attend basic training at Orillia. Lloyd was reallocated to the Canadian Armoured Corps (CAC) and was very keen to be a gunner, requesting consideration as a Gunner-Operator. He became a



Trooper with the CAC Training Regiment at Camp Borden, ON 12 January 1944. He was interviewed 1 February with his Army Examiner remarking about Lloyd: "An intelligent man of pleasing personality... Biederman successfully passed the Code Aptitude Test and should be good material for training as CAC Operator".

*Camp Borden, ON Armoured Training WW2*

Lloyd qualified as Gunner-Operator "C" 24 June 1944 and received permission to marry Ruth Verna Armstrong who was a munitions worker. The couple were wed at Camp Borden 1 July 1944.

*Lloyd Biederman*

Lloyd was shipped out following his embarkation leave time, disembarking in the UK 27 July 1944 where he reported to the CAC Reinforcement Unit. He was landed in Northwest Europe that fall and taken on strength with the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured (Personnel) Carrier Regiment 17 November 1944.



*Lloyd kneeling in white, photo possibly taken training in UK*

1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Army had converted 72 Priest tanks to Infantry Carriers in August 1944, which became known as Kangaroos. They were effective in reducing infantry casualties during

the Battle of Normandy and the squadron was formally attached to The Elgin Regiment (25<sup>th</sup> Canadian Armoured Delivery Regiment) in September 1944. They were involved in the capture of Le Havre that month and carried 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division into battle. In late September/early October they saw action at Calais with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigades.

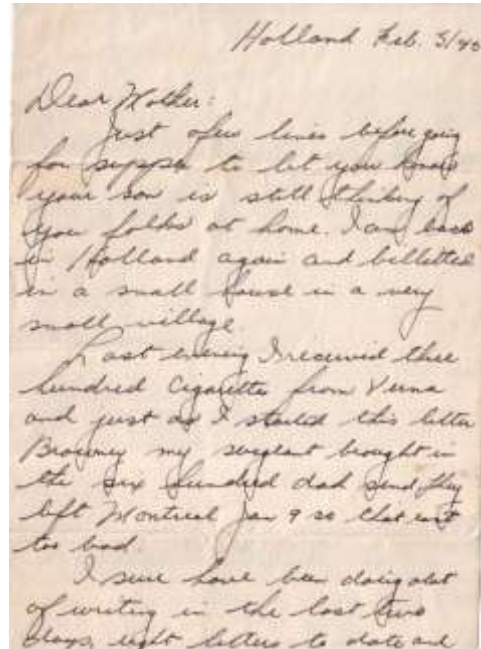


The well worn Priests were replaced by Canadian made Ram tanks in October 1944, with turrets removed and other modifications made allowing them to accommodate 10 infantrymen plus the crew as armoured personnel carriers. They were merged into the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured Carrier Regiment (1CACR or "Kangaroos") 25 October 1944 at Tilburg, Netherlands and placed under the command of the British 79<sup>th</sup> Armoured Division.

*Six "Kangaroos" Tilburg, Netherlands Oct 1944*

Trooper Lloyd Biederman served in "A" Squadron, Number 1 Troop as a Gunner-Operator with Trooper McCarten as his Driver-Mechanic. A Troop had three Sections with three tanks in each Section, so a troop of tanks could carry a platoon of infantry. They were carrying British infantrymen around the Nijmegen Bridge area approaching the Siegfried line by the end of January 1945. Lloyd maintained regular correspondence with his mother Edna and wife Verna. Packages of cigarettes shipped from home were always welcome.

*Letter home from Lloyd 3 February 1945*



The Allied offensive Operation VERITABLE was launched 8 February 1945. Orders were received for "A" Squadron to go into action carrying Scottish soldiers and the convoy moved out at 21:45 hours that night.

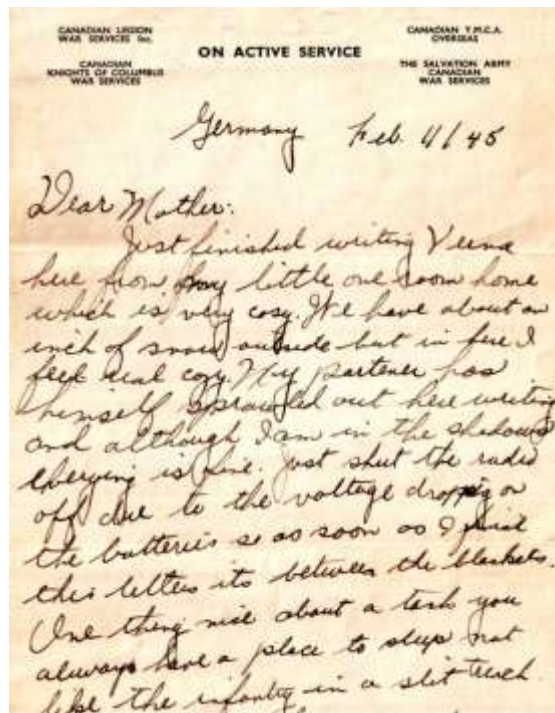


*Scottish Div. on Kangaroos, Kranenburg, Germany*

The Kangaroos suffered three fatal casualties on 9 February, mostly from enemy mortar attacks.

Lloyd started writing his last letter home 11 February 1945 but never had the chance to finish it. He mentioned that sleeping in their tank was much cozier than the infantry who had to make do in slit trenches. He wistfully wrote "if they (the Germans) would only throw in the towel". However, some of the toughest battles of the war lay ahead for the Canadian Army.

Lloyd's No. 1 Troop were carrying the Winnipeg Rifles "A" Company 16 February 1945 from their concentration area near Cleve, Germany to their Forming Up Place for their part of the pending attack. Their Action Report below summarizes events that day.



**16 Feb 45 Fri                      Very foggy.**

Reveille at 0530 hrs. Empouched R.W.R. by 0800 hrs. Left harbour in Cleve at 0830 hrs and proceeded to FUP Area 934525. Zero hour 1200 hrs. Last reports 7 Cdn Inf Bde making good progress. The story of this action is best told as were the others, action reports of tp ldrs and comments by the sqn cmndr, which follow.

**No.1 Tp "A" Squadron carrying "A" Coy Winnipeg Rifles, 7 Bde.**

The intention was to take 962488.

1 Sqdn of 3 Scots Guards leading. The tanks went through to the objective with the Kangs behind them. Shelling was fairly heavy on the way up. Tpr McCARTEN'S tank was hit by a mortar and the kit on the back went up in flames. McCARTEN got out under mortar fire and threw off the kit. This was done under mortar fire. The inf debussed near the objective and occupied it.

The Kangs were correctly used and the plan was sound. The inf suffered no casualties while on board.

*1CACR "A" Squadron Action Report courtesy Bill Miller – CanadianKangaroos.ca*



It's uncertain whether Lloyd was in Trooper McCarten's tank when it was hit by a mortar. What is known is that Lloyd received a bullet wound to his neck that day from either regular enemy fire or perhaps a sniper shot. He was evacuated for treatment to 6 Canadian General Hospital at St. Michielsgestel, Netherlands.

*Royal Winnipeg Rifles on Kangaroo*

**DANGEROUSLY WOUNDED.**  
**Canadian Armored Corps.**  
**BIEDERMAN, L. A., Tpr., Humber-**  
**stone.**

*Ottawa Journal, March 1945*

**CANADIAN NATIONAL  
TELEGRAPHS**

JL FILE NO. 405-B-36,635

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) OTTAWA

TO: MRS RUTH V M BIEDERMAN  
 255 MELANBY ST.  
 HUMBERTON, ONT.  
 35324

19 FEBRUARY 1945

SINCERELY REGRET INFORM YOU B155055 TROOPER LLOYD ARMOUR BIEDERMAN HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED WOUNDED IN ACTION ON A DATE NOT YET AVAILABLE BECOMING DANGEROUSLY ILL SEVENTEETH FEBRUARY 1945 NATURE OF WOUNDS DESCRIBED AS BULLET WOUND NECK WITH CAROTID ARTERY LESION AND HEMIPLEGIA STOP WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED AVAILABLE IT WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS RECEIVED STOP WHEN ADDRESSING MAIL AND WORDS IN HOSPITAL IN BOLD LETTERS OVER NAME OF ADDRESSEE FOR QUICK DELIVERY STOP TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO OUR ENEMIES DO NOT DIVULGE DATE OF CASUALTY OR NAME OF UNIT

PREPAID DIRECTOR OF RECORDS

*Capt R H. Miles - Chaplain  
 6 Cdn. Gen Hospital  
 Canadian Army Overseas.  
 St. Michiels Gestel  
 Military Cemetery (Holland)  
 3rd Row. 2 grave.  
 2 Army.*

Lloyd died from his wounds three days later, 19 February 1945, age 22. A Chaplain at the hospital made note of Lloyd's temporary burial place and placed it with Lloyd's final (unfinished) letter home.

Trooper L.A. Biederman was temporarily buried at St. Michielsgestel, Netherlands and later relocated to Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery in the Netherlands, grave reference **XVI. H. 12.**



*Lloyd Biederman's temporary grave marker before permanent headstone placement at Groesbeek, Netherlands*

*Photo courtesy Canadian Virtual War Memorial*

Two Memorial Crosses were made for Lloyd, with one sent to each his mother Edna and widow Verna. Edna Biederman sadly died in August 1945 from a cerebral hemorrhage, age 44.

Verna remarried Sergeant Odie Roy of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders after the war.

Lloyd Biederman's campaign medals:

- 1939-1945 Star
- France-Germany Star
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp





Biography by Jim Little, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources Consulted:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Library and Archives Canada

Veteran Affairs Canada – Canadian Virtual War Memorial

Ancestry public trees

Newspapers.com

Jim and Chris Biederman – Lloyd Biederman’s nephew and great nephew

Lannan Coal Company Dock, Port Colborne, ON photo

<https://greatlakes.bgsu.edu/media/473901>

Pacific Coast Defences map

<https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/UN/Canada/CA/SixYears/SixYears-5.html>

Camp Borden, ON Canadian Armoured Corps training picture ww2

[https://www.aviaeology.com/store/p157/Camp-Borden\\_A-Century-of-Service.html#/](https://www.aviaeology.com/store/p157/Camp-Borden_A-Century-of-Service.html#/)

Kangaroo pictures <http://www.theelginmilitarymuseum.ca/the-kangaroos.html>

1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured Carrier Regiment information - [CanadianKangaroos.ca](http://CanadianKangaroos.ca)

Bill Miller – Canadian Kangaroos photos and information for Lloyd Biederman

Grodzinski, John R. (1995) Kangaroos at War – The History of the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Armoured Personnel Regiment

Reid, Brian (2010). Named by the Enemy – A History of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles

Port Colborne, ON War Cenotaph photo

<https://ontariowarmemorials.blogspot.com/2020/04/port-colborne.html>



\* If you have a photo of this soldier or additional information please contact [info@facestograves.nl](mailto:info@facestograves.nl)

### "Dangerously Ill"

Word has been received here that Private Lloyd Biederman who previously was reported wounded, is now dangerously ill. The information from the Casualty Records office at Ottawa stated that Private Biederman is suffering paralysis caused by his wounds.

Private Biederman who went overseas in July 1944, enlisted in 1942. He was married July 1, 1944 to Miss Verna Armstrong, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Armstrong at a marriage ceremony performed at Camp Borden. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Biederman and has two brothers and three sisters residing with their parents.

A brother-in-law, Gerald Doan, is serving with the R.C.A.F.

### TPR. BIEDERMAN DIES OF WOUNDS

Mrs. Lloyd Biederman has been notified that her husband, Trooper Lloyd Biederman, previously reported wounded and later, as dangerously ill, died of his wounds February 19.

The notification, received from the war casualty records office at Ottawa, contains no further details beyond the information that Trooper Biederman had died but added that further information as to his burial would be forwarded when available.

Trooper Biederman is survived by his widow, the former Verna Armstrong; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Biederman; and two brothers and two sisters residing with their parents in Humberstone.

## Church Filled On Sunday As Memorial Service Held For Trooper L. A. Biederman



TPR. L. A. BIEDERMAN

First Lutheran church was filled Sunday morning when a memorial service was held for Trooper Lloyd Arthur Biederman who departed this life on February 18th while serving overseas.

The service was in charge of Rev. Theo. A. Iseler, who paid tribute to the departed in these words: "The third star on our honor roll has been placed after the name of Tpr. Biederman. Such a star indicates that the supreme sacrifice has been made for King and Country; such a star proclaims that relatives have been bereaved and are in need of comfort and sympathy. This great audience is a testimony to the esteem in which this young man was held, and an appreciation of the sacrifice which he made. He gave his all, more than that no one can give."

Choosing as his text, John 14: 19: "Because He lives ye, too, shall live," the pastor expounded two thoughts, namely, that because Jesus lives, believers have the certain hope of life eternal in yonder world, and because Jesus lives, believers conquer the fear of death.

Miss Irma Hanson sang a solo entitled "Beyond the Sunset." The choir rendered "No Night There," with Helen Climenhage, Edna Iseler and Alma Crumb taking the solo parts. Louis Suess presided at the organ throughout the service. The congregation sang "Beautiful Saviour," "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past," "Peace, Perfect Peace" and "I Know That My Redeemer Lives."

Floral tributes were placed by the bereaved families and other relatives, and by the War Service Com-



Lloyd's sisters Dorothy and Helen married two Doan brothers, Gerald and Don. Helen later made inquiries about how her brother died and applied to receive his military service records. Bill Miller of CanadianKangaroos.ca was instrumental in working with the Biederman family, including Lloyd's nephew Jim and his son Chris Biederman to discover and compile all available information, documents and photos for the family.

Lloyd Biederman is listed as one of their local WW2 fallen at the Port Colborne, ON Cenotaph.

Port Colborne, ON Cenotaph

## Deaths

**BIEDERMAN, Charles Albert** - of Port Colborne passed away at the Northland Pointe on Saturday, August 29, 2009 at the age of 81 years. He was predeceased by his wife Margaret Biederman as well as sisters Dorothy Doan and June Biederman and brother Lloyd Biederman. He will be sadly missed by his children Denise (Reiny) Petri of Aurora, Jim (Cheryl) Biederman of Stoney Creek and Richard (Berry) Biederman of Port Elgin. Grandfather of Christopher, Nathan, Jaimie, Angie, Bradley and Jessica. Also survived by brother Maurice Biederman of Edmonton and sister Helen Doan of Port Colborne. The Biederman Family will receive visitors at the **PORT COLBORNE CHAPEL** of the **DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOMES** 135 Clarence St. on Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. The Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Cremation to follow with interment of ashes at Pleasantview Memorial Gardens at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to Northland Pointe. On line condolences and guest register at [www.davidsonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.davidsonfuneralhomes.com)



*L-R Front: Charles and Maurice Biederman*

*L-R Rear: Helen and Dorothy Doan*

## Deaths

**BIEDERMAN, Maurice** - at 80 years of age, passed away on December 29, 2010 at his home in Edmonton. Maurice was born in Humberston, Ontario, the second youngest of six children. Maurice loved socializing, and had a personality that endeared him to everyone he met. He was a kind man, who volunteered selflessly throughout his life. Maurice left his mark as a handyman and gardener, giving this world just a little more beauty. He is affectionately remembered by daughter Nancy (Deanna), granddaughter Amanda (Armando), grandson Lance (Amanda), and great granddaughters Arabella and Alexandra, all from Edmonton, and his sister Helen Doan from Port Colborne, Ontario. Maurice was predeceased by his wife Dorothy, son Brian, sisters, June and Dorothy and brothers, Lloyd and Charles. If you wish to honour Maurice's life, donations may be made to World Vision Canada on his behalf.



*Lloyd Biederman's Groesbeek Grave 2022*

*Photo credit Major Nathan Biederman, RCE*