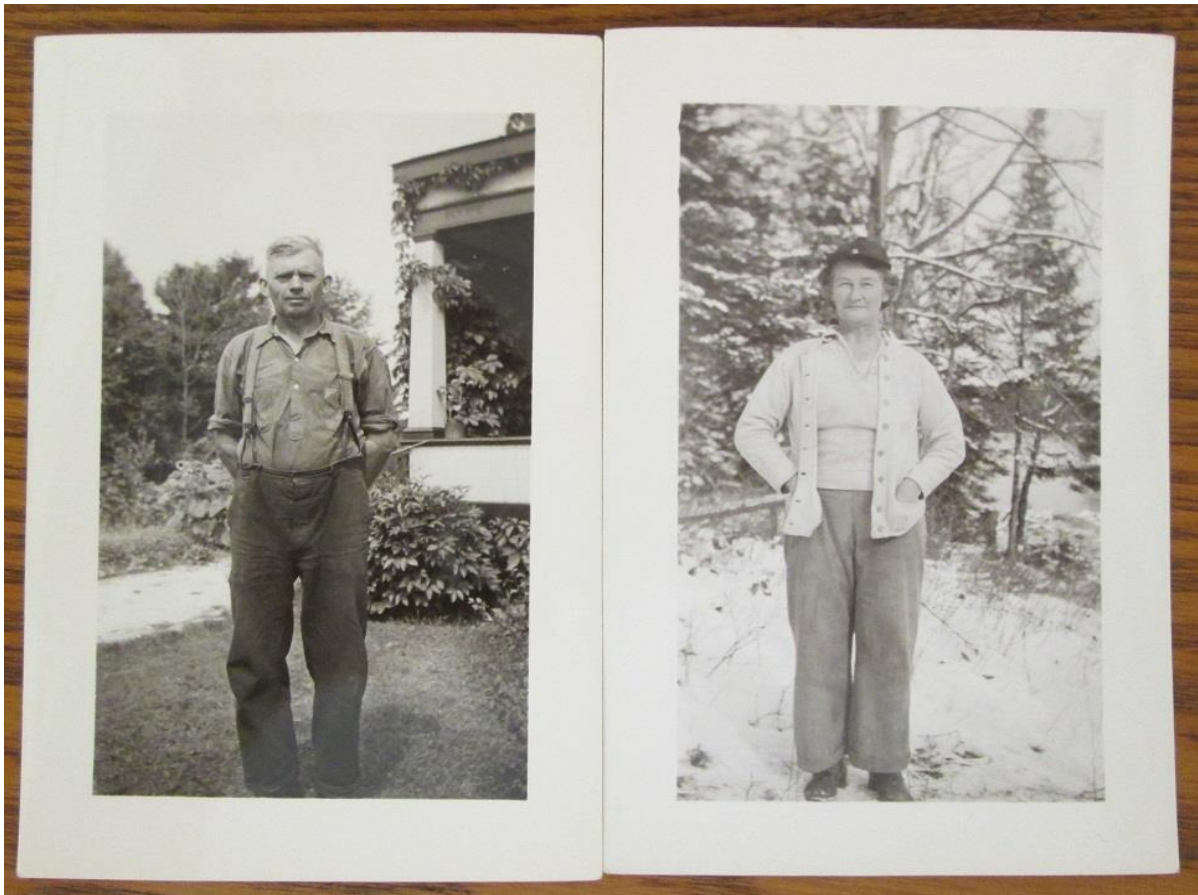


Boice, Lyle Laverne
Sergeant
Stormont, Dundas and
Glengarry Highlanders
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
C/1730



Lyle Laverne Boice was born on Friday May 12th, 1922 in West Guilford, Ontario. He was the only son of Wesley Ethelbert Boice and Ethel Boice Griffin who were married on September 22nd, 1915 in Halburton, Ontario. Lyle had just one sister Muriel Irene and the family were members of the Church of England. Their home was in West Guilford, Ontario, in central Canada. Father Bert was a hunting guide and trapper. He also worked in lumber camps during the pruning season of the large Canadian pines. Lyle's father taught him the art of trapping. Mother Ethel was a kind lady who stayed at home and made the small family farm into a warm, loving, comfortable place for all the Boice family.

Sister Muriel loved to drive and was forever asking father Bert to let her use the care. She used to tease Lyle, asking him why he would not want to learn to drive. This went on for a while and one day father and daughter once again asked him this same question. On his response "I already know how to drive" both challenged him to prove it. Father Boice opened the garage door, Lyle jumped into the car, backed out of the garage and took to the road to the dismay of his father and sister. They were both speechless when he returned home by car. Although he himself had never driven, he had watched his father and sister do so and thus learnt the technique by heart.



Father Bert en Mother Ethel Boice

Source: Algonquinhighlands.ca

Lyle attended grade 7 and left school at age 14. He went to work with his father as a lumberjack for the next five years. Lyle was of medium build, with light brown eyes and dark brown hair. Lyle was a keen sportsman and loved to go fishing and hunting, swimming, skiing and playing basketball and hockey.

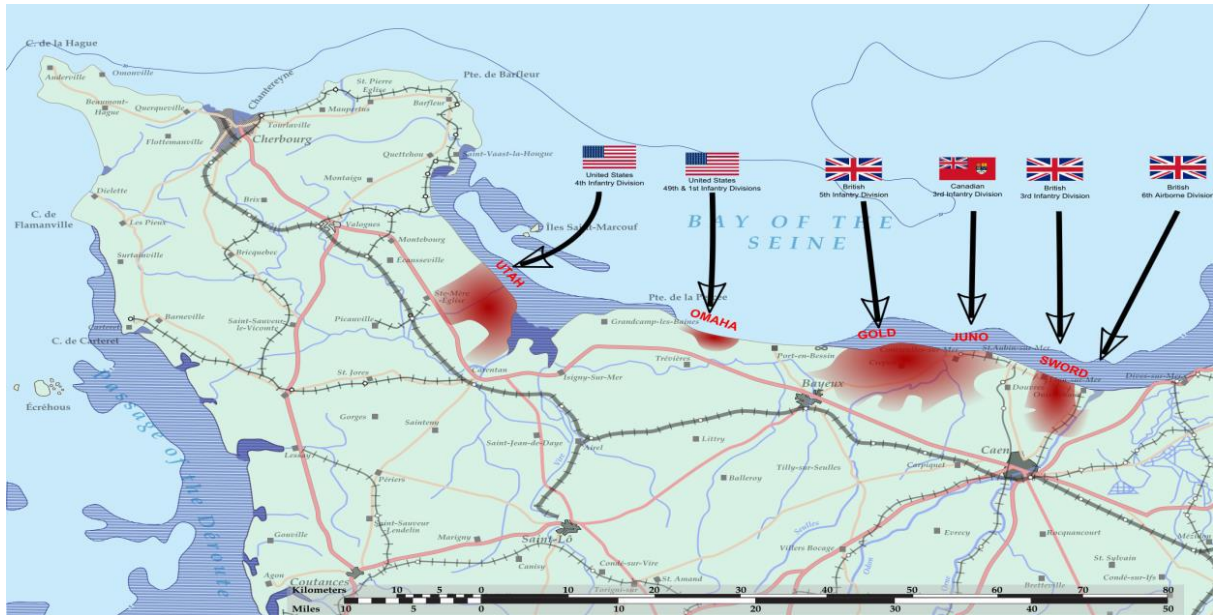
On April 29th , 1941, Lyle enlisted in the Canadian Army in Kingston, Ontario. He was, at first, placed with the #3A District Depot as a gunner (Royal Canadian Artillery in Cornwall, Ontario). In quick succession (May 14th) assigned to 34th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery in Debert, Nova Scotia, and on May 15th to 14 Canadian Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.

On July 19th he boarded one of the troopships headed for England and crosses the Atlantic to England arriving in Ewshott, Hampshire for further training. Here, a tough education and training awaited him: realistic exercises, day marches and amphibious landings. Lyle served as an Artillery Gunner, well versed in signaling, so he also worked in the telephone exchange before joining the Highlanders.

On May 31st, 1943 deployment to the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders. Following his promotion to Lance Corporal on January 1st,

1944, he busied himself instructing soldiers on how to use a six-pound anti-tank gun just before the D-Day landings.

June 6th, 1944, D-Day. The 3rd Canadian Infantry Division left England for Normandy. Their assigned target was Juno Beach close to Bernière-sur-Mer. The Stormont Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders were part of the 9th Canadian Infantry Brigade and landed at 10.50 a.m.

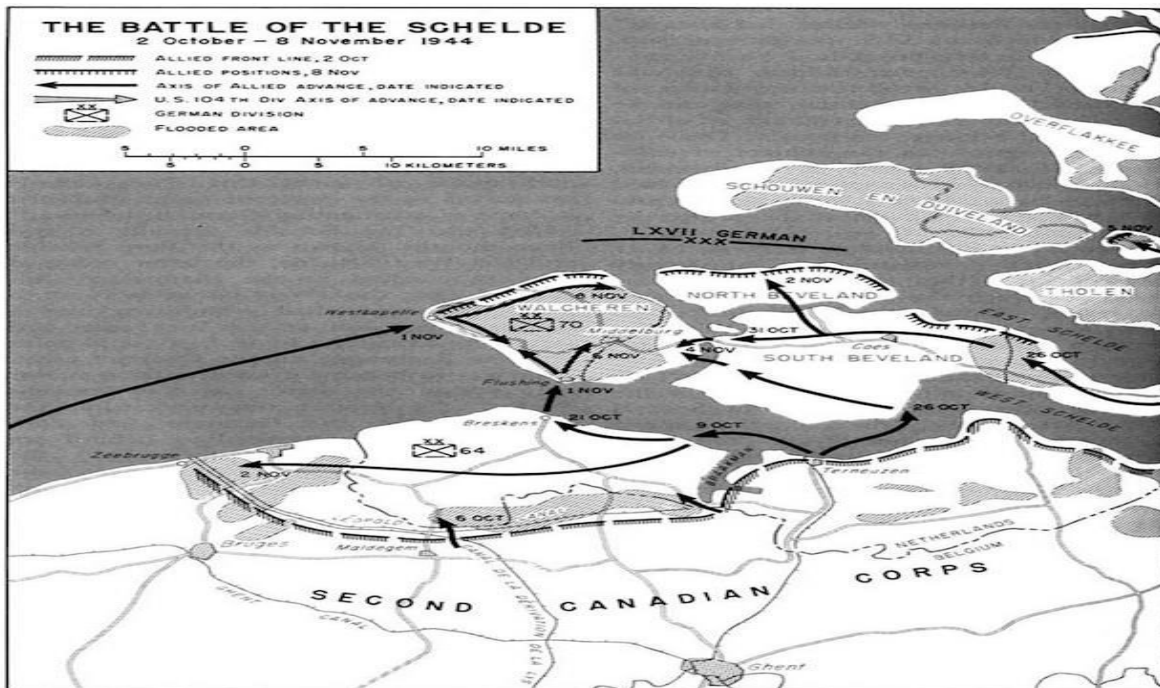


Source : [Wikimedia.org](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Normandy_landings.jpg)

As Lyle approached the shores of Normandy on D-Day, his boat took a hit and exploded. He survived, floating eight long hours in the cold water of the English Channel, before he was saved. They headed for their target, the high grounds surrounding Carpiquet Airport, 6 kilometers west of Caen. The troops were met with strong opposition from the German 12. SS Panzer Division Hitlerjugend. There were many casualties on both the Canadian and German side, as well as major destruction of tanks and army equipment during the ensuing combat. On July 11th, well over a month after D-Day, Caen is in Allied hands and the regiment are among the first Allied troops to enter the city of Caen. In France, Lyle Laverne Boice once again escaped death when a bullet narrowly missed his head, causing him to lose his beret.

Via the northwest coast of France, it was onwards to Belgium and the Netherlands. The Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders took part in the battles of Falaise, Boulogne, De Schelde and Breskens. It was here that Lyle's battalion played an important role in clearing the Breskens Pocket in the southwest of the Netherlands. On October 8th, 1944, under the protection of a smoke screen, the battalion arrived at Terneuzen by sea in amphibious "Buffels", and landed on the dike to the east of Hoofdplaat. From there they progressed forward and on October 10th,

Hoofdplaat is seized. The attack on the second line of defense started on October 21st, when the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders raided Breskens, liberating the city on October 24th.



MAP 2

Source: Liberationroute.nl

On October 1st, 1944, Lyle Laverne Boice was promoted to Sergeant and on November 9th, the battalion moved from Ghent to Grave. As a battalion member of the '9th Infantry Brigade' Lyle would be heading for his final destination Nijmegen on November 10th at 9 p.m. On Saturday, November 11th at 11 p.m., the Americans of the '2nd Battalion, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment of the US Army' were relieved east of Nijmegen and the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders set up camp in Persingen and Groenendaal. Their goal: guarding, defending and securing the Waal Bridge near Nijmegen and the surrounding area. Once established in their new camp, Headquarters decided to change the Brigades every seven days, with two active Brigades and one in reserve, the latter would be ready for active duty by means of rigorous training.

In the night of Saturday 18th to Sunday 19th of November, the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders took over from the "Highland Light Infantry of Canada" near the town of Ooij.

On November 26th, a bomb or grenade came down on the corner of the Johannaweg and Kwakkenbergweg in Nijmegen. All this while Canadian troops lined up for a church service in Nijmegen. The missile destroyed a house close by, breaking every window of the Battalion Headquarters and

buildings in the vicinity. Two soldiers were killed and 15 injured. Two Dutch girls also lost their life and several civilians were injured. Two Canadian soldiers died of their injuries later that day. One of them Lyle Laverne Boice, who passed away at the age of 22.



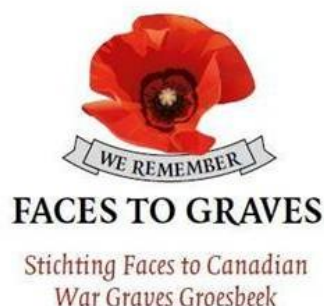
Source: Vitacollections.ca

He was temporarily buried at the Jonkerbos Cemetery in Nijmegen and on August 8th, 1945, Lyle Laverne Boice was reburied at the Canadian War Cemetery Groesbeek, grave reference **II. F. 11**.

'WHILE YOU, DEAR SON, REST AND SLEEP,
LOVING MEMORIES WE WILL ALWAYS KEEP.

Awards Lyle Laverne Boice:

- 1939-1945 Star
- France and Germany Star
- Defence Medal
- War Medal 1939-1945
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp.



Life story: Gijs Krist, Research Team Faces to Graves.

* Do you have a photo of this soldier or additional information please contact info@facestograves.nl

Sources:
Commonwealth War Graves
Library and Archives Canada
Wikipedia
Oorlogsdodennijmegen.nl
www.mindentimes.ca
Wigger KF van der Horst.
John Welch.

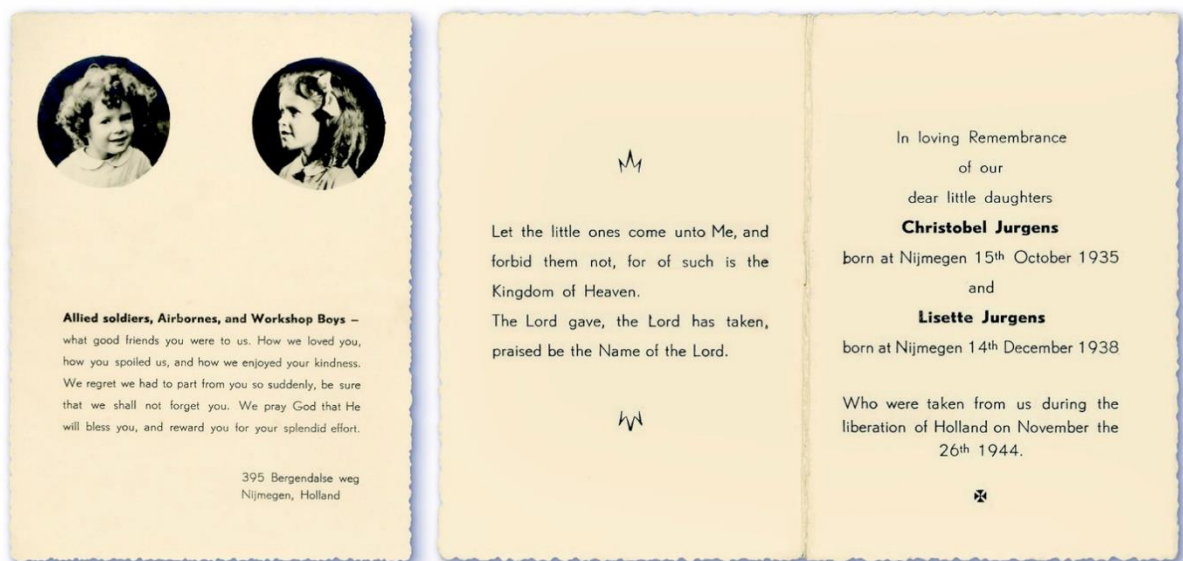
The parents, of the little girls (Dutch father and British mother) were parents of four children, before this tragic event took two their two youngest children.

They honoured the Allied soldiers in the Memorial card for their children.

Text:

Allied soldiers, Airbornes, and Workshop Boys –

What good friends you were to us. How we loved you,
How you spoiled us, and how we enjoyed your kindness.
We regret we had to part from yo so suddenly, be sure
that we shall not forget you. We pray God that He
will bless you, and reward you for your splendid effort.



Netherlands - Nijmegen - On Sunday November 26th 1944. According the History of the SD&G-Highlanders "Up The Glens": "As the troops were froming up for the Church Parade, a rocket or parachute bomb fell in the Battalion area. It demolished a house near the parade ground and broke all windows in the Battalion Headquarters and nearly buildings SD&G Privates George E Mahar and Douglas R Schofield were killed and fifteen men were wounded. Sergeant Lyle L Boice and Private Francis K Black later died of wounds received at this time. There were a number of civilian casualties - among them two little girls killed" > *Daughters of Jan Jurgens and Joy Anderson: Christobel and Lisette.*

PhotoCollection Mr M Jurgens - The Hague - Netherlands

Source:

<http://www.oorlogsdodennijmegen.nl/persoon/jurgens/37dfe24f-9307-4fc1-8801-f7668319a68a>

October 2018, because of the 150th anniversary of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders, Glen Memorial were placed at the graves



Photo Alice van Bekkum

In memory of
Sgt. Lyle Laverne Boice
C 1730
Died on 25 November, 1944
Age 22

Son of Bert and Ethel Boice,
of West Guilford,
Haliburton Co., Ontario.

Remembered with honour
Groesbeek
Canadian War Cemetery
Gelderland, Netherlands.

Sergeant
Boice Lyle Laverne

Glen Memorial-Wigger van der Horst.