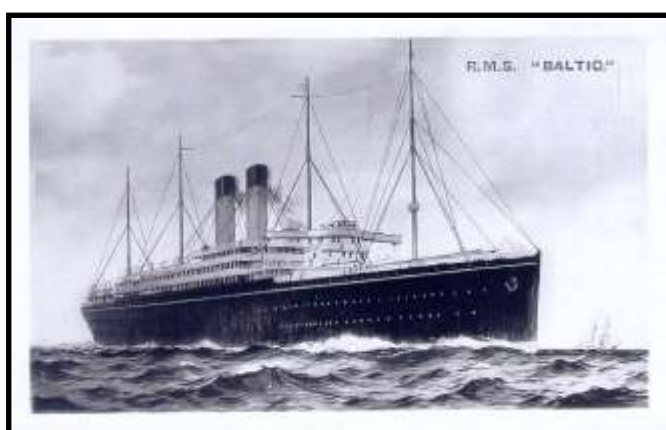


Cadzow, James Robeson
Private
Algonquin Regiment
Royal Canadian Infantry Corps
H9676



James (Jim) Robeson Cadzow was born on April 23, 1911, in Kirkfieldbank, Country of Lanark, Scotland. His parents were James Cadzow and Catherine McConnell. They were married on July 17, 1903 in Kirkfieldbank, Lanarkshire, Scotland. His father worked as a joiner. He also served in the Royal Air Force from 1912-1919 before the family immigrated to Canada. James had one sister: Elizabeth (Dee Dee) and five brothers: William (Bill), Christopher, George, John (Jack) and Malcolm. James was the fifth born child.

The family who settled in Winnipeg, Manitoba, had immigrated to Canada on the RMS Baltic, White Star Line, arriving in Halifax, Nova Scotia in November, 1919. James' brother George was not on the passenger list as he had measles while Elizabeth was on the list but also did not go, according to George's granddaughter, Janice Richardson. Elizabeth eventually moved to Winnipeg.



Source: <https://greatships.net/baltic>

According to his military records, James attended Centennial Public School in West Kildonan, Manitoba, until Grade 8. Sadly, his father died in 1926 at the age of 43 and is buried in the military section of Brookside Cemetery in Winnipeg. James had to go to work after his father passed away.

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Rank	Service	Remarks	Port of Origin	Destination	Remarks	Port of Origin	Destination	Remarks	Port of Origin	Destination	Remarks	Port of Origin	Destination	Remarks
17	✓ Deane	26	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
18	✓ Deane	27	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
19	✓ Deane	28	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
20	✓ Deane	29	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
21	✓ Deane	30	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
22	✓ Deane	31	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
23	✓ Deane	32	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
24	✓ Deane	33	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
25	✓ Deane	34	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
26	✓ Deane	35	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
27	✓ Deane	36	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
28	✓ Deane	37	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
29	✓ Deane	38	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
30	✓ Deane	39	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
31	✓ Deane	40	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
32	✓ Deane	41	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
33	✓ Deane	42	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
34	✓ Deane	43	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
35	✓ Deane	44	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
36	✓ Deane	45	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
37	✓ Deane	46	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
38	✓ Deane	47	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
39	✓ Deane	48	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
40	✓ Deane	49	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private
41	✓ Deane	50	M	1st	Private		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax		Halifax	Halifax	Private

Canada, Incoming Passenger Lists. Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1919, November

He worked for a few years as a delivery boy but mainly as a waiter at the Royal Alexandra Hotel for 12 years. Before entering the military, he was the Head Banquet Waiter at the hotel. The records say that he was promised the hotel job once he was discharged after the war. James enjoyed football and did some mountain climbing. It states in his Personnel Selection Record that James enjoyed "a good poker game once in a while."



The Royal Alexandra Hotel where James Cadzow worked as a waiter



Catherine Cadzow (James' mother) visiting the gravesite of her husband (James' father). Photo courtesy of Janice Richardson

Three of James' brothers served during World War Two. William served as a private in the Canadian Army, Christopher was a private in the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Regiment and George was a private in the British Imperial Army. It is noted in his military papers that James wished to join the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry to be with his brother.

According to his Attestation Papers, James enlisted in the Canadian Army on May 5, 1943, at No. 10 District Depot in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He did not have any previous military experience. When he enlisted, he stood five feet and four and a half inches tall and weighed 158 pounds. He had blue eyes and brown hair. Private Cadzow was single and belonged to the United Church.

His Personnel Selection Record stated that he was "pleasant, chatty" with a good army attitude. It was also stated that Private Cadzow had "the intelligence, learning ability and educational background to become an efficient gunner". At the time he enlisted, it is noted in his military

documents that he was very worried about his mother who was seriously ill in the hospital.

In the Soldier's Service and Pay Book, it shows Private Cadzow completed basic and Common Army Phase training at Fort Garry, Manitoba. On November 17, 1943, he was moved from infantry to the Royal Canadian Artillery as a Gunner. On December 4, 1943, he went to train in Brandon, Manitoba at the Canadian Army Training Centre. He was trained to use the rifle, light machine-gun and sub-machine gun. On March 8, 1944, Gunner Cadzow travelled to Debert, Nova Scotia and on April 11, 1944, he debarked from Canada and headed to Europe.

Gunner James Cadzow disembarked in the United Kingdom on April 18, 1944. He was placed in the Canadian Army Reinforcement Unit but was moved to the Canadian Infantry Replacement Unit on April 29, 1944. On September 9, 1944, Private James Cadzow left the United Kingdom and disembarked in France on September 10. He was placed as an unposted reinforcement in the Canadian Base Reinforcement Group and on September 22, 1944, he was assigned to the Algonquin Regiment.

On February 26, 1945, as documented in Project '44 and the Official history of the Canadian Army in the Second World War, Operation Blockbuster began. It was part of the larger Operation Veritable (Battle of the Rhineland), the push into Germany to clear German forces to the Rhine River. Operation Blockbuster involved the Algonquin Regiment.

Private James Cadzow was a member of 'A' company based on the "A" Coy list found in the Algonquin Regimental Diary from March 1, 1945 to March 31, 1945. Companies 'A' and 'B' were tasked with capturing the forward German defences in the Hochwald Gap, a narrow area between heavily fortified and forested areas. Companies 'C' and 'D' supported by two tank troops of the South Alberta Light Horse were to capture and hold point 73, a high ridge in the gap. The German defences included anti-tank ditches, low wire, minefields, snipers and robust counterattacks to retake lost ground. There was heavy fighting and casualties.

On March 2, 1945, the planned advance to capture the bridgehead over the Hohe Ley Stream at the eastern end of the gap faced delays due to the muddy weather conditions. The operation, initially set to begin at 2:00 am, was delayed until 4:30 am. Companies 'A' and 'B' came under heavy shelling, machine gun and anti-tank fire as they tried to reach some battered houses in a low ditch. Further down the road, 'C' Company was pinned by heavy fire between ruined farmhouses while 'D' Company was left vulnerable due to the tanks being knocked out by anti-tank fire. They were within sight of their ultimate objective, the bridgehead, but they were halted due to intense artillery fire and shelling on both flanks.

Private Cadzow's 'A' Company faced disorganisation due to heavy small arms fire from buildings south of the railroad track. Due to intense enemy fire, 'D' Company were told to hold their ground. 'A' Company took up a defensive position for the rest of the day enduring further casualties from heavy

shelling and snipers. Meanwhile, 'C' Company faced a similar situation on the north shoulder of the gap. By the afternoon on March 2, 1945, 'B' Company was directed to support 'C' in an attack, to link up with 'D' and 'A' Companies who had passed through that morning. Since both 'D' and 'A' Companies were pinned down by enemy fire, they were also directed to hold their position.

On March 3, 1945, the visibility was poor. It was cold and overcast with some snow when in the morning the battered and tired four companies of the Algonquin Regiment were relieved by the 5th Infantry Brigade. According to the Official history of the Canadian Army in the Second World War, "since the attack launched in the early morning of the 2nd, there were 87 Algonquin casualties which included 32 men taken prisoner." On The Canadian Virtual War Memorial site, it shows 20 Algonquin soldiers died that day and Private James Cadzow of 'A' Company was one of them.

Private James Cadzow was 33 years old when he died in action on March 3, 1945. He was temporarily buried on March 9, 1945, with religious rights on the western outskirts of Xanten, Germany. He was placed in Row 2, grave 10 at Ueudemerbruch, Germany. On October 30, 1945, his remains were exhumed and reverently reburied in a recognized military burial ground in Groesbeek.

Private James (Jim) Robeson Cadzow is buried in Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery and the grave reference is **XIV. F. 8.**

The inscription on the headstone reads,

MY SON JIM.

"SAFE IN THE ARMS OF JESUS,
SAFE ON HIS GENTLE BREAST"

MOTHER

There is a discrepancy in his age on the headstone. James' military documents list his birthdate as April 6, 1910, but his older brother, George, has this date on his certificate. An extract of his birth certificate from the Register of Births in Scotland shows that he was born on April 23, 1911. Therefore, Private James Cadzow was 33 at the time of his death, not 34 based on the military documents or 31 on his headstone.



L: Extract of James Cadzow's birth certificate shared by his grandniece, Janice Richardson, showing James' date of birth as April 23, 1911.
 R: Headstone of Private James Cadzow with age 31 inscribed

The campaign medals awarded to Private James Cadzow were:

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

Private James Cadzow is listed in The Algonquin Regiment Memorial in Parry Sound. He is also remembered in the roll of the Scottish National War Memorial as a Scot serving in the Canadian Forces. In 1973, an island in Loonhead Lake was named after James Cadzow. This island is located in northern Manitoba.

The Algonquin Regiment Memorial
 Parry Sound, Ontario



Certificate from the Manitoba Government given to the family after the lake was named in memory of James Cadzow



Cadzow Lake in Loonhead Lake, Manitoba



Life story written by Penny Lessard, All Saints High School Teacher in Kanata, Ontario, Canada for Faces to Graves courtesy of Vanessa Kirtz, teacher at All Saints H.S.

Additional research and editing provided by Kurt Johnson.

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- Warpath: The story of the Algonquin Regiment, 1939-1945 by G L Cassidy (George L.)
- Winnipeg Free Press
- Winnipeg Tribune

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