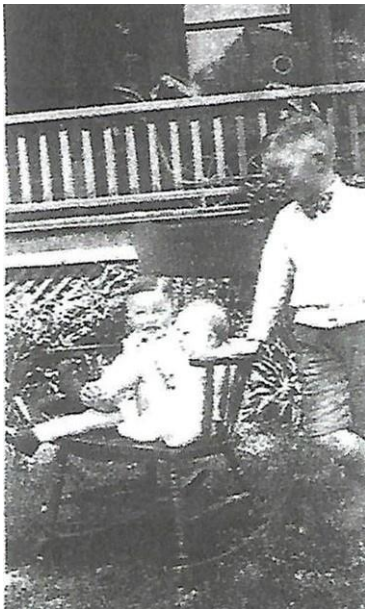


**Cherrington, George Hugh**  
**Corporal**  
**Calgary Highlanders**  
**Royal Canadian Infantry Corps**  
**M 8237**



George Hugh Cherrington was born on the 22nd of July, 1925 in Waskatenau, Alberta, Canada. His father was William Thomas Cherrington, and his mother was Jean Cherrington.



He also had a younger brother, Donald Frank and a younger sister, Helen Beatrice. The family were members of the United Church. The family lived on a 160-acre farm in Moon Lake, Alberta.

*George and his younger brother Donald and sister Helen.*

George had blue eyes, blond hair, he was 5 ft 11 tall and weighed 163 lbs. He had a scar on his left patella. He was active in the usual sports and in track and field events. He won cups for running and jumping, he liked reading fiction and scientific matter. Reading, riding and hunting were his chief pastimes. At the age of 15 he left school to work on his dad's farm. He mostly worked with horses.

George married his girlfriend Blanche Lavada Jensen on 14 October 1943. They moved in with George's parents.

*Weddingday, George and Blanche on the right.*



Seven days after the wedding, George signed up for the army on 21 October 1943. When William, George's father, joined the army at the age of 45 and was sent overseas, George's mother had to run the farm on her own with her younger son, daughter and daughter in law, who gave birth to a little girl, Leona Anna, on 1 June 1944.

George was well appreciated by his superiors in the army. *"He is a steady soldier, not very aggressive and he learns fast. His leadership is developing."* M.D. Campbell (2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut.) also commented in an interview on 1st of November 1943: *"A big husky lad of good appearance and nice personality. He impresses as particularly steady and reliable. His interests and activities have been limited by working hours and distance from a centre but he is bright and intelligent and has made the best of his opportunity. He has a splendid attitude to service and should make a very good soldier."*

George left for the United Kingdom on 5th August 1944. A few weeks later on 31 August he departed to North-West Europe.

George Hugh Cherrington died in Wyler, a small German village, near the city of Nijmegen in the Netherlands on 8th February 1945 in action against the enemy at the age of 19.

George Hugh Cherrington served a total of 470 days in the Canadian Army.

He was awarded the following medals:

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

George was first buried in a temporary grave in Nijmegen.

Later on he was reburied at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, grave reference **V. A. 11.**

The inscription on his tombstone says:  
FATHER, IN THY GRACIOUS KEEPING  
LEAVE WE NOW OUR DARLING SLEEPING



Life story: Jelle Lensink and Pim van Rens, Canisius College Nijmegen, supported by Research Team, Faces to Graves.

Sources:

Photos and memories: George's sister Helen Karvonen (nee Cherrington)  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission  
National Library and Archives Canada

*George Hugh  
Cherrington.*



*13 July 2019 – photo Alice van Bekkum.*