



## **WALTER KOSHELANYK**

**B/146196**

Private.

### **Family affairs.**

Walter Koshelanyk is born on June 9th 1922 in Caliento, Manitoba. He was not married and lived in Toronto, Ontario, 192 Franklin Avenue. He was the son of Joseph en Helen Koshelanyk, who married on November 8th 1913 in Caliento. His father already died in 1924 and later on his mother remarried with his stepfather Hrabets. They lived in Caliento. His father was a farmer. He had two brothers Victor and Joe Koshelanyk, five halfblood brothers Bill, Peter, Mike, John and Paul Hrabets and two halfblood sisters Annie and Stella Hrabets. It is unknown if his mother Helen is also the mother of his halfblood brothers and sisters. In Caliento he only attended the Public School, which he left 14 years old to go to work. He reached Grade 8. First he worked for 6 years on his mother's farm, then for half a year at Vicary Rubber Co. in Toronto, and then for 8 months as truck driver at Winnipeg Lumber Co. in Winnipeg, Manitoba. His hobby was hunting and baseball was his favorite sport.

### **Military affairs.**

He is enlisted on April 16th 1943 in Toronto at the Royal Regiment of Canada. His education and training he got to July 16th 1943 in Toronto and until November 24th 1943 in Camp Borden, Ontario. Then to Great Britain and on July 4th 1944 to France. He died of wounds/ was killed in action on October 24th 1944 near Ossendrecht, the Netherlands. He is temporarily buried on the Temporarily Cemetery Ossendrecht, 23NE, 57841800. May 18th 1945 he is reburied on the Canadian War Cemetery in Bergen op Zoom, Plot 11, row C, grave 3.



### **Remarks.**

- On his tombstone is written: "Born in Caliente, man, survived by mother two brothers. Father passed away in 1924".
- He received the 1939-45 Star, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & CLASP, War Medal, Defence Medal and the France-Germany Star.
- Total wages in just more than 18 months active service are: 386,84\$ (Canadian), including last pay.
- According the Ancestry Walter Koshelanyk' parents were born in Austria. Surprisingly is at his enlistment he said that besides English he also spoke fluently the Ukrainian language, although he couldn't read it. May be his parents first emigrated from Austria to Ukraine and later on to Canada.
- The link below is referring to a newspaper article from the late nineties, in which a lake in the far northwest of Manitoba, at the border with Saskatchewan is commemorated to Walter Koshelanyk. This article contains more interesting information, for example that there are still members of his family alive.

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2641922>