



## **HARRY ALEXANDER MacDONALD**

**R/76219**

Sergeant, Wireless Operator, Air Gunner.

### **Family affairs.**

Harry Alexander MacDonald was born on January 21st 1917 in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. He Married in Winnipeg, Manitoba on June 28th 1941 with Marion Bertrand, who lived in Winnipeg, Suite 21, Moxam Court, River Avenue.

He was the son of Daniel Robert MacDonald and Emily Mathilda Warrington born respectively in Thorburn and Seal Harbour, both Nova Scotia. The profession of his father is unknown. They lived in Duke Street, Trenton, Nova Scotia. In the Ancestry only one sister is mentioned but under her husband's name, Mrs. Eric Trowell, Niagara Street, Chippawa, Ontario. Via Google a site has been found(**see data and pictures**), where also 4 brothers are mentioned, all names are also unknown.

From 1922-1927 on the Old High School in New Glasgow, from 1927-1932 on the Trenton High School, from 1932-1935 unemployed and from 1935-1940 worked as a mechanic at the Eastern Car Company Ltd in Trenton. His hobby was photography, including developing and printing. His favourite sports were swimming, skating and bowling.

## **Military affairs.**

On November 18th 1940 he was enlisted at the Royal Canadian Air Force in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His attestation he already made 5 months earlier on June 9th 1940, also in Halifax. His education and training he got subsequently until December 23th 1940 in Brandon, Manitoba until July 6th 1941 in Winnipeg, until August 5th in Dafoe, Saskatchewan and until August 23th in Halifax. Then to Great Britain.

He died on June 17th 1942, because his plane was shot down above the Northsea in between Noordwijk and Katwijk(Zuid-Holland) during a raid on the German town Essen. He is temporarily buried on the Cemetary Huisduinen near Den Helder, GSGS 4042, Sh. 3.B., 1/250.000, M.R.Y. 9787. On May 29th 1947 he is reburied on the General War Cemetary in Bergen op Zoom, Plot 29, row B, grave 12.

## **Remarks.**

- On his tombstone no additional text is written.
- He received the following medals and awards: 39-35 Star, Aircrew Europe Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp and the Operational Wings.
- Total wages in just more than 1 year and 7 months active service at RCAF are: 283,09 \$(Canadian).
- In de Ancestry only one sister of Harry Alexander MacDonald is mentioned. Her name is either from her husband Mrs. Eric Trowell.  
On the site:  
<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/2034012> down under the small picture of him also four brothers are mentioned, one them served also in the army "overseas". All names are unknown.

- MacDonald's aircraft (Vickers Wellington III, X3723, VR-H, RAF 419 Sqn ) lift off at 23.36 hours on June 16th 1942 from Mildenhall, England for a raid on the German town of Essen. It didn't return from this mission, because it was shot down on June 17th at 03.23 hours above the North Sea in between Katwijk and Noordwijk(Zuid-Holland) by the German nightfighter of Oberleutenant Prinz H. Sayn Wittgenstein van Erg.St./NJG 2. All five crew members were killed. Names and service numbers of the crew:

Pilot A.H. Harris(RCAF)	J/15584
Observer N.E. Costigan(RCAF)	R/61096
Front air gunner F.R. Donnison(RCAF)	J/15419
Wireless operator/Mid-Air gunner H.A. MacDonald(RCAF)	R/76219
Rear Air gunner J.T. Hunter (RCAF)	R/89856

The bodies of Harris and Donnison are washed ashore at Katwijk on May 11th and 12th 1942, the body of MacDonald is washed ashore on July 8th 1942 at Callantsoog(Noord-Holland). MacDonald and Donnison(graf 6-H-5) were reburied later Bergen op Zoom, Harris is buried in Katwijk, graf 1-6. The bodies of Costigan and Hunter have never been found, they are commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial in Egham, England.

**Bron:** <https://www.verliesregister.studiegroepluchtoorlog.nl/zz.php>