



William Harvey Bice

B45194

Field Ambulance

About the family

William Harvey Bice was born on July 6, 1923 in Uxbridge Ontario Canada. He was the son of Stewart Benny Bice and Eliza Mabel Bice. He had 1 brother (Norman Hector) who died on July 2, 1943 and 3 sisters (Agil Pearl, Janet Florence and Angel Viola). He was the youngest of the family, had no relationship and was a Free Methodist.

William left school at 16 and worked on a mixed farm for 1.5 years. After that he did construction work for 3 months, after which he worked as a laborer (general cement work) with his father for 8 months.

When he signed up, he listed his hobbies as hunting, swimming, rugby, softball and skiing. He could drive vehicles, but he didn't have a driver's license. The medical examination report states that he has been assessed as borderline, that he is honest, has a sense of responsibility, is cooperative and interested and that he is a teetotaler. From the same form: "suitable for complete training and overseas deployment." He was about 1.60 meters tall and weighed 61 kg. He had blue eyes and brown hair.

Military Affairs.

On 26-11-1942 he was enlisted in the Royal Canadian Army. Since he had no vocational training, he was provisionally assigned as a soldier for the general service. He completed basic training and education in Halifax. After this we went to the Lawlors island military hospital and CD and AA Artillery training centre in preparation for overseas. He has also received training in map reading.

From 26-11-1942 to 20-7-1943 he was still in Canada. From 21-7-1943 to 3-7-1944 he was in England and on 4-7-1944 he arrived in France. On 25-10-1944 he was killed in action by a piece of shrapnel in the head. This was in Hoogerheide on the road to Huijbergen. He is temporarily buried in the schoolyard of a school in Hoogerheide, together with his colleague from the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (R.C.A.M.C), 11 Field Ambulance., Antonie Demetre Poulus, who was killed on the same day. On 14-5-1945 they were reburied at the Canadian War Cemetery in Bergen op Zoom. William lies in plot D row 7 grave 2.

Details.

- On his tombstone is written: "He giveth his beloved sleep PS. cxxvii.2" This is stated in Psalm 127.2. Psalm 127 is a psalm from Psalms in the Hebrew Bible. It is one of the pilgrimage psalms. The English translation is "The Lord gives it to his loved ones in sleep" and means that sleep is a gift from God to those he loves. Moreover, that God is your perfect source of security and peace, and then accept in simple faith his gift of love: sleep.
- He has received Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, French and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, 1939-1945 Star.
- His unit was Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (R.C.A.M.C), 11 Field Ambulance, with the 11 referring to Victoria, the capital of the Canadian province of British Columbia.

RCAMC uniform button



Written by Conny and Hans de Graaf, Faces to Graves Bergen op Zoom

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Canadian_Army_Medical_Corps

<https://dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com/psalm-127-2>