



WALTER FRANK WATSON VENESS

M/56877

PRIVATE-TROOPER

Family affairs.

Walter Frank Watson Veness was born on December the 20th 1923 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

He is the son of Walter Arnold and Louise Olive Veness, married on June the 21th 1920. The latter died already very young on August the 4th 1941. His father was born in Great Brittain. He had two brothers Roy Arthur and Phillip Arthur en one half-blood brother Kenneth. He also had two sisters Louise Catharine and Olive Agnes. The address of Roy was unknown, Louise lived in New Toronto, Ontario and Olive lived in Edmonton. All the others lived in Glenevis, about 75 km. North-west to Edmonton.

William left the Public School when he was 14 years old, including a special course mechanics during two years . He reaches Grade 9. He left the school because a secondary school was not available in the neighbourhood. Before he volunteered the Army he was technical assistant/ truck driver on his fathers farm.

Military affairs.

18 years old he was enlisted on March the 5th 1942 at the 18-de Armd. Car Regt. of the 12-th Manitoba Dragoons. Until April the 10th 1942 he was educated and trained in Edmonton, until July the 20th 1942 in Ottawa en thereafter until March the 22th 1943 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

March the 22th he is embarked to Great Brittain, where he arrived 9 days later. He stayed there until July the 8th 1944, before he was embarked to Normandie . From now on he was fighting with the troops in North-west Europe.

On January the 22th 1945 he was killed in action in the neighbourhood of Dirksland , where he is temporarily buried.

On October the 4th 1945 he is reburied on the Canadian War Cemetary in Bergen op Zoom , grave 4-row F-plot 8.



Remarks

- On his tombstone is written: "Greater love hath no man", lovingly remembered by his sisters and brothers.
- His sister Louise wrote on August the 2nd 1946 a letter to the Minister of Defence. She said that she has got a letter from a Dutch friend of Walter, living in Dirksland. The letter contained also photographs of her brothers grave in Dirksland. It is a pity that the name of the friend is not mentioned.
- His father, a veteran out off 1914-1918, wrote on March the 7th 1946 also letter to the Minister. He also stated that a family in Holland wrote a letter to him. In the same letter he asked for a compensation for the loss of his son, so that his other son can go to High School. The answer on this request is unknown.
- He received the Defence Medal, the 1939-45 Star, the War Medal, the France/Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal & CLASP.
- Total earnings in nearly 3 years active military service were \$ 491,06 (Canadian).
Later on his sister Louise received a "last payment" of \$.124,14