

SERGEANT

BAKER, ERNEST WILFRED

Service nummer C/2954

Overleden 1945-04-04

Leeftijd 23

[The Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highlanders](#)

Begraafplaats: [Canadian War Cemetery Holten XII.F.13](#)

Tijdelijke begraafplaats: [RK begraafplaats Vierakker](#)

Monument: [Kerkhofweg Warnsveld](#)



Ernest Wilfred (Ernie) Baker was born on January 17, 1922 in Brockville, Ontario, to Wilfred and Mabel Baker. He is the third of a family of 5 children and has 1 brother, Victor Albert Baker who is a Flight Officer in the Royal Canadian Air Force and 3

sisters, Katheleen Elizabeth, Barbara Jean and Betty Irene.

At the age of 16, Ernie quits school and works for a year and a half as a hatter at the Stetson Hat Company in Brockville. When he registers as a reservist with the Brockville Rifles on February 9, 1942, he is unemployed and admits to something else. He is versatile in sports, he swims, skates, is a pitcher at baseball, plays ice hockey and can be used in all positions in football. He receives his basic and advanced training in Cornwall and Brockville.

Before traveling to the United Kingdom in June, he married his childhood sweetheart Dorothy Irene Doran on May 21, 1943.

In England he is assigned to the Canadian Infantry Reserve Unit and later to the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlander, the "Glens". In June 1944 he arrived with this regiment in Normandy where Caen was liberated after a fierce battle at the beginning of July. The Glens fought their way northwards and via Boulogne, Terneuzen, Knokke and Zeeuws Vlaanderen they arrived in the Ooijpolder and camped near Nijmegen at the end of November where they prepared to invade Germany. In February 1945 Baker went on leave to England for 9 days.

Military Medal

When the Glens passed through Germany at the end of March 1945, they encounter fierce opposition about 200 meters east of Donsbrüggen in the direction of Kleve.

The enemy held four houses that covered the road with fire. Corporal Baker ordered his section to give him covering fire. He dashed forward to the first house and killed all the enemy; then he systematically cleared the other three houses single-handed.

This aggressive action resulted in the death of five Germans and the capture of sixteen. "C" company then struck into the edge of the town, overrunning a 75mm anti-tank gun and then clearing the streets. (source: "UP THE GLENS")

For this brave act he received the Military Medal. Not much later he was also promoted to Sergeant.

On April 4, 1945, Ernie Baker died together with Norman Hannann while they ran into a ambush with a schmeisser at the Looër Enk in Leesten on farmland owned by the Gotinks, near the current Rouwbroekweg. His son later finds items of clothing with bullet holes in them at that spot. Ernie's wife Dorothy only learned after more than a week that her husband had died. He was temporarily buried at the Roman Catholic Church between Vierakker and Wichmond and on April 1, 1946 was given a permanent resting place at the Canadian War Cemetery in Holten, grave XII.F.13.