



Thomas was born on June 19, 1919, in Montreal, the son of Thomas William Boucher (who died on October 1, 1940) and Clara Boucher-Prout of Montreal. He was the brother of Pte Robert Anthony Boucher, who also served with the Royal 22nd Regiment and was deployed in Europe during World War II and survived. The Boucher family was Roman Catholic.

Thomas attended public school for six years and then O'Sullivan Business College for two years. He spoke English and French. Thomas worked as a hospital checker.

He enlisted in Westmount, Quebec, on August 19, 1940, and then went overseas to Gourrock, Scotland, on June 21, 1941.

There he was assigned to the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. After two years of further training, he was shipped out for Sicily on June 27 1943. Thomas was involved in the further advance and fierce fighting of his corps in Italy. On October 12, 1944, he was attacked in Avellino, Italy, as he was leaving a bar. He was beaten unconscious and robbed of his money. The perpetrator(s) could not be traced. After the Italian liberation advance, Thomas was transported to Marseille on March 18, 1945, to travel overland to the eastern Netherlands. On March 28, 1945, he was transferred to the Royal 22nd Regiment (the van Doos). He joined his new unit on April 6, 1945.

Thomas was killed in action on Sunday, April 15, 1945, at the age of 25, during the battle for Apeldoorn. Earlier, on April 11, 1945, he and his unit had crossed the IJssel River during Operation Cannonshot, the crossing of this river between the Dutch villages of Gorssel and Wilp. Thomas was then temporarily buried in Wilp/Achterhoek, west of Deventer. On January 24, 1946, he was reburied in Holten.

On his gravestone: OFT IN THE STILLNESS THEY WHISPER SO SOFTLY DEATH CANNOT DIVIDE. REMEMBERED ALWAYS MOTHER AND BOB

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; Italy Star; France Germany Star; War Medal; Defense Medal; CVSM & Clasp.

His mother was awarded The Memorial on May 22, 1945.

