

William was born on February 15, 1917 in Upper Musquodoboit, Halifax County, Nova Scotia to Henry Vance Brown and Emily Brown (both had English nationality). They were married in Middle Musquodoboit on July 28, 1914. His sister was Viola Jane Johnson-Brown, wife of Munroe Johnson and his brother was Carl Robert Brown (also in the military). His other brother Gordon Thompson Brown had died as a boy in 1919.

At the age of 15 William left school to work in carpentry. William's family was Presbyterian.

He enlisted in Halifax Nova Scotia on 23 June 1942 and after a year of military training at Camp

Borden William went overseas to the UK on 17 June 1943 and was subsequently sent to the front in France on 22 July 1944. There he was assigned to the Canadian Grenadiers Guards (22nd Armored Regiment).

After the liberation advance through France, Belgium and the Netherlands, William was active with his regiment during the Rhineland Offensive in February and March 1945. At the beginning of April there was still fighting at the Twente Canal in the Netherlands and then William moved again into Germany with his regiment. William was killed in action on Monday 23 April 1945 at the age of 28 years during the fighting at Edewecht Germany, when his tank was hit by a bazooka. He was then temporarily buried in Edewechterdamm, Germany, before being reburied in Holten on March 11, 1946.

On his gravestone: IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEAR SON. YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

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

His mother was awarded the Memorial Cross on June 4, 1945.

