

Clark, Garfield Denby

Trooper

1st Hussars, 6th Armoured Regiment

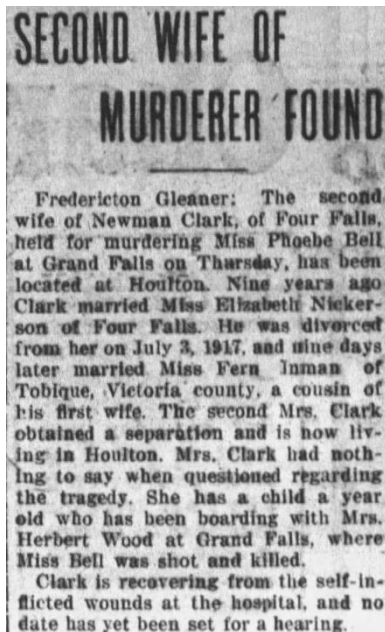
Royal Canadian

Armoured Corps

B/144257



Garfield Denby Clark was born 11 April 1918 at Plaster Rock, Victoria County, New Brunswick (NB). His father Newman Cashman Clark, of Irish heritage, married Elizabeth Murchinson in 1907 and had one surviving son with her named Clyde. Newman and Elizabeth were divorced in 1917. He remarried Garfield's mother Ferne Darling Inman, of Scottish stock and Elizabeth's cousin, soon after in Maine, USA. The Presbyterian couple lived at Newman's farm at Four Falls, NB near the Canada/USA border.



Bangor Daily News April 1920

Ferne and Newman were separated by 1920. Newman had their only child Garfield with him when he shot and killed Phoebe Bell at Grand Falls, NB 25 March 1920, then attempted suicide by shooting himself. Ferne was in Houlton, Maine and Garfield remained in Grand Falls, NB.

Saint John Telegraph Journal March 1920

Coroner's Jury Finds Clark Murdered Girl

Evidence Given by Witness That Miss Phoebe Bell, of Grand Falls, Refused to Marry Him—Clark Resting Comfortably in Hospital—He is Said to be Worth \$20,000.

Newman Clark of Four Falls, who is accused of killing Miss Phoebe Bell at Grand Falls, late Thursday afternoon was taken to the hospital yesterday and an examination by surgeons shows that he had shot himself through one lung. His condition is serious, but he was resting comfortable last night.

A coroner's jury yesterday found that Miss Bell came to her death as the result of bullet wounds inflicted by Clark. A dispatch from The Telegraph's correspondent at Grand Falls last night follows:

The inquest on the body of Phoebe Bell was held this afternoon before Coroner George A. Ryan. The jury was made up as follows: W. V. Powers, B. A. Hildout, F. L. Dixon, L. J. Burgess, Dennis Paradis, L. C. McCluskey and Charles Mignault. The first witness called was Claude Murphy of Andover. He testified to being at Herbert Wood's house on the afternoon of Thursday, March 25. Ida Pettetier, Phoebe Bell and Newman Clark were there. Phoebe seemed to be cross. She went to the next room, a bedroom, and Clark followed. Witness did not hear their conversation, but soon after heard three shots. He went to the door and saw Phoebe Bell fall on the bed as Clark fired the third shot. Clark then went to the sitting room and told them not to be frightened. He then bared his chest and said, "If you want to see me go, watch me." He fired three shots at himself. Witness then went through the bedroom and saw Phoebe Bell lying on the bed gasping for breath.

Ida Pelletier, the next witness, gave practically the same evidence. She heard Clark ask the girl to marry him and she heard her say "no" just before the shots were fired. She also told that he said he had killed the girl because she would not marry him. She left the house after he fired the first shot at himself.

Dr. Lorenzo Chapman testified to being called by telephone to Herbert Wood's house. A little before 6 o'clock he examined the body of Phoebe Bell and found that she was dead. He found a bullet wound in the chest in the region of the stomach and another in the neck. In his opinion either of these wounds would be sufficient to cause death.

The verdict of the jury was that Phoebe Bell came to her death as the result of wounds received from bullets fired from a revolver in the hands of Newman Clark.

Clark was taken to the hospital late this afternoon. Examinations show that he was shot through a lung. He is resting comfortably and his condition is as good as can be expected.

A Canadian Press dispatch from Fredericton says:

Thursday night, when his life was despaired of Clark made his will disposing of his farm and other property, valued at \$20,000 to relatives. Yesterday morning his three brothers arrived at Four Falls. Clark is said to have had two wives and two children, one by each

NEWMAN CLARK FOUND GUILTY OF MURDER

Jury, However, Coupled a Recommendation For Mercy With Their Finding.

SENTENCED THIS MORNING

Clark Was Charged With the Murder of Miss Phoebe Bell on March 25, 1920, at Grand Falls,

(Canadian Press)

Andover, Dec. 3—After an absence from the court room of five hours and fifteen minutes, the jury in the case of Newman Clark, charged with murder, tonight presented their verdict of guilty, with a recommendation for mercy. The judge withheld sentence until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

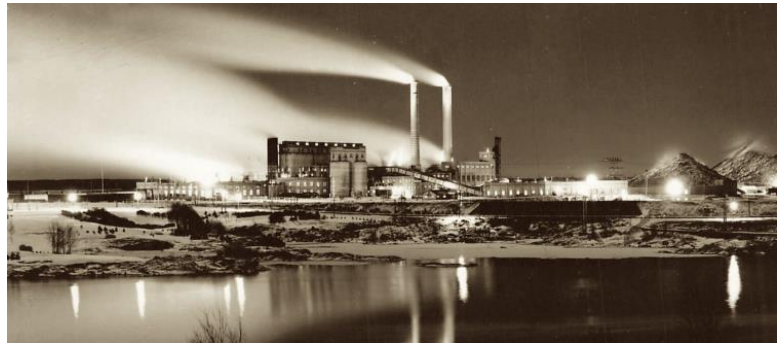
None of Clark's relatives were present when the verdict was given. The prisoner showed more signs of nervousness than he had at any time during the trial. He was removed to his cell immediately after the verdict had been announced.

Newman Clark was charged with the murder of Miss Phoebe Bell on March 25, 1920, at the home of friends in Grand Falls. After her refusal to marry him, he shot her with a revolver and her death followed immediately. Clark then turned the gun on himself and wounded himself but finally recovered. During his stay in the hospital he made an effort to escape over the border line into the United States but suffered so much from the severity of the weather and lack of clothing, in his weakened state, that he had to take refuge in a barn where he was discovered and recaptured.

Moncton Times Transcript December 1920

Newman escaped custody while recovering in the hospital and was later recaptured. He pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity but was convicted of murder following a sensational trial and was sentenced to death by hanging for March 1921. His farm was auctioned off to settle his mortgage debt February 1921. Newman received a stay of execution after appealing to the Supreme Court and was to stand trial a second time in September 1921. However, the jury found him to be unfit for trial and he was likely institutionalized after that.

Garfield was told his father Newman died when he was an infant. His mother Ferne later remarried and Garfield began living with his extended family in Kapuskasing, Ontario (ON) around age five. He attended school until completing grade 7, age fifteen. Garfield wasn't interested in sports and ran a trapline for three winters. He found employment with Spruce Falls Paper Mill in Kapuskasing and worked there for several years.



Spruce Falls Paper Mill, Kapuskasing, ON



Garfield married Patricia Pearl Morris at Kapuskasing November 1939. They had a daughter Carol Christine February 1941. The Anglican Clark family moved south to St. Catharines, ON where Garfield became a machine operator supervisor at St. Catharines Steel in the manufacture of war materials. He was also supporting his mother Ferne whose remarried surname was Jacques.

Patricia Pearl Morris Clark

Garfield attested 16 March 1943 at Hamilton, ON age 24. He was then 5'6" tall and 154 lbs. He had some driving experience and wanted to become a Driver with the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. Garfield was sent to Orillia, ON for basic training and spent three weeks in the hospital there June 1943 with the mumps. He was allocated to the Canadian Armoured Corps (C.A.C.) and sent to Camp Borden, ON for advanced training. Garfield qualified as Driver Class III (Wheeled and Tracked) August 1943, then Driver Mechanic Group "C" 7 October 1943.



Camp Borden, ON WW2

Garfield was cleared for overseas service and disembarked in the UK 1 December 1943 where he reported to the C.A.C. Reinforcement Unit. He completed a Driver Mechanic course in the UK and qualified as Driver Mechanic (Tank) 24 March 1944. Garfield landed in France 26 July 1944 and was taken on strength by the 1st Hussars, 6 Canadian Armoured Regiment (6CAR) 6 August 1944.



LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Troops from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and Regina Rifles watch as tanks of the 1st Hussars land near Courseulles-sur-Mer, France, on D-Day in

The 1st Hussars formed part of 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade along with the Fort Garry Horse (10th Armoured Regiment) and the Sherbrooke Fusiliers (27th Armoured Regiment). 6CAR supported 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade on D-Day to establish a beach head at Courseulles-sur-Mer, France.

6CAR suffered 38 casualties on D-Day and continued to support 3rd Canadian Infantry Division as they moved inland against the Germans, facing stiff resistance when they were counterattacked. On 11 June 1944 the 1st Hussars "B" Squadron was decimated during an abortive attack on the village of Le Mesnil Patry, northwest of Caen, France. 6CAR participated in the capture of Caen in July, followed by the Battle of Verrières Ridge. The Allies forced the Germans retreat from Normandy that summer and the 1st Hussars helped clear Channel ports in September. 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade had limited involvement in the Battle of the Scheldt that fall due to

the wet ground conditions in Belgium and the Netherlands. Garfield was severely injured and returned to the UK for treatment late summer 1944.

SEVERELY INJURED.
CANADIAN ARMORED CORPS.
Clark, Garfield Denby, Tpr., North
Bay, Ont.

The Province, September 1944

Garfield was interviewed in the UK 3 January 1945 after his recovery from an operation. He mentioned his harrowing experience serving in a tank that was lost with his Sergeant killed in action. His preference was to remain in the UK and although not keen to return to active service, would do so if he had to. Garfield's mother Ferne died 29 January 1945 after losing her battle with cancer at Toronto General Hospital. His wife Patricia moved back home to Kapuskasing with their daughter Carol and had Ferne buried there.

Garfield was reposted to the C.A.C. Reinforcement Unit and did not rejoin his Regiment until 31 May 1945. The 1st Hussars had participated in Operation BLOCKBUSTER in the Rhineland during the February Allied advance and helped liberate Apeldoorn, Netherlands in April 1945.



Apeldoorn, Netherlands Liberation Parade April 1945

The 1st Hussars were stationed near Groningen, Netherlands 21 June 1945. An Ammunitions Examiner at the Infantry Barracks Eclipse Dump had identified a pair French "R" mines with the detonators reversed that were too dangerous to transport with the other material. He arranged storage for them in a brick and concrete building without any warning signs. The building exploded around 1100 hours that day, killing Troopers Clark and Hainer of the 1st Hussars. A Court of Inquiry was struck to investigate their deaths. They were unable to determine what caused the detonation of the unstable mines. Troopers Clark and Hainer were not on guard duty and their deaths were ruled to be accidental. Garfield Clark died on that date age 27.

REPORT OF THE COURT

1. Since Trooper HAINER and Trooper CLARK were at the dump and have not been seen since, it is assumed that they were the two bodies found in the debris.
2. Neither man was on duty at the time of the accident.
3. S Sgt COOKE, 5 Div Ammunition Examiner held that the mines were in a dangerous enough condition so that he would not permit them to be transported by vehicle.
4. A Sqn guard was not warned of the presence of the mines. Trooper HAINER and Trooper CLARK could not have possibly come upon the mines accidentally on entering the building.

Signed this 28th day of JUNE, 1945 in the field.

C.H. Graham
(C.H. GRAHAM) Captain President
6 Cdn Armd Regt (1H)

R.A. Daly Lt
(R.A. DALY) Lieut Member
6 Cdn Armd Regt (1H)

J.W. West Lt
(J.W. WEST) Lieut Member
6 Cdn Armd Regt (1H)

COMMANDING OFFICER'S FINDING

It is felt that although the two bodies were unrecognizable, they were definitely those of B144257 Trooper CLARK G D and A108752 Trooper HAINER L J.

While not actually manning a post at the time of death, they were still on duty as their tour of duty was for 24 hours, during which time they were not allowed to leave the area.

The cause of death can be attributed to the detonation of the two "R" mines but the cause of their detonation will never definitely be known.

It is recommended that for record purposes, death be shown as "Accidental - Whilst on Active Service".

W.D. Brooks Major
(W.D. BROOKS) Commanding Officer
6 Cdn Armd Regt (First Hussars)

I concur in the CO's remarks. In my opinion Troopers CLARK and HAINER were on duty at the time of the explosion in accordance with KR Can 641, however it is impossible to state whether these soldiers were or were not negligent.

G.S. Ross
(G.S. Ross) Brig
CRA 5 Cdn Armd Div

**CANADIAN PACIFIC
HEJ TELEGRAPHS**

FILE H.Q. 405-C-24,742

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY)

OTTAWA 11 JULY 1945

TO:- MRS PATRICIA P CLARK
28 STEWART AVE
KAPUSKASING ONTARIO

83998

REGRET DEEPLY B144257 TROOPER GARFIELD DENBY

CLARK HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED TO HAVE DIED TWENTYFIRST JUNE
1945 STOP CAUSE OF DEATH NOT YET AVAILABLE STOP WHEN FURTHER
INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE IT WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS
RECEIVED STOP YOU SHOULD ALSO RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS BY MAIL
DIRECT FROM THE UNIT IN THE FIELD

PREPAID

Toronto Star July 1945

DIED
Canadian Armored Corps
CLARK, Garfield Denby, Tpr.:
Mrs. Patricia P. Clark (wife), 28
Stewart Ave., Kapuskasing.

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DECLARATION

*Insert degree of relationship for example, "Widow", "Father", "Brother", etc.

I hereby declare that all the particulars shown on this form are correct, and a true and complete statement of all the relatives that the deceased ever had in the degrees specified; and that I am the

* Widow of the deceased.

N.B.—To be signed in full in the presence of a Clergyman, Priest, Local Magistrate, Commissioner or Notary Public or Commissioned Officer of any of His Majesty's Forces.

Patricia Pearl Clark

Signature of Informant

Kapuskasing

Address

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief

*See above. { Name of informant } is the * Widow of the Deceased above described. The above Declaration was made by the Informant and signed in my presence.

Dated at Kapuskasing this 11th day of September 1945

Signature of Clergyman, Priest, Magistrate, Commissioner or Notary Public or Commissioned Officer of any of His Majesty's Forces.

Enrico Qualification Commissioner

Address Kapuskasing, Ont.

NOTE.—Before granting the above Certificate, care should be taken to see that the informant gives particulars concerning the death of any relative stated by him or her to have died, and that the full name and address and age of each surviving Relative specified is stated in its proper place in the Statement opposite.

(If the deceased has no living relatives of the degrees shown on page 2, the names and addresses and relationship of other relatives should be set out below.)

USE SPACE BELOW FOR ANY ADDITIONAL REMARKS YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE

22.- ed upon enlistment due to additional assigned pay of seven dollars & fifty cents, necessary for his mother, Mrs Fern D. Jacques. Suffering from cancer who died on Jan. 29th of this year 1945. Toronto General Hospital whom I buried at Kapuskasing on Feb. 2nd 1945.

Trooper G.D. Clark was temporarily buried at Groningen, Netherlands and later relocated to Holten Canadian War Cemetery, grave reference **VI. B. 4.**

Photo Credit lestweforget1945.com

The inscription on his headstone:

SLEEP ON, DEAR BOY,
IN HONOURED REST.
GOD CALLED YOU HOME
HE THOUGHT IT BEST

Garfield Clark's campaign medals:

- 1939-45 Star
- France-Germany Star
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal/Clasp



Garfield Clark is listed as one of their local WW2 fallen on the Kapuskasing, ON Cenotaph.

Kapuskasing, ON Cenotaph

Garfield's widow Patricia remarried John "Rocky" Davies in 1947 and had more children with him, half-siblings to Carol.



Biography by Jim Little, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources Consulted:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Library and Archives Canada

Veteran Affairs Canada – Canadian Virtual War Memorial

Ancestry public trees

Newspapers.com

Spruce Falls Paper Mill, Kapuskasing, ON photo

<https://baladodecouverte.com/circuits/1085/histoire-regionale-de-kapuskasing-et-de-hearst>

Camp Borden, ON tank picture <https://www.ontrmuseum.ca/tankmuseum/blog-post/ontr-tanks-of-second-world-war/>

1st Hussars Regimental information and photos <https://sharrob56.wixsite.com/first-hussars-wwii/blank-1>

1st Hussars cap badge picture <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/military-history/history-heritage/official-military-history-lineages/lineages/armour-regiments/1st-hussars.html>

1st Hussars battle information https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Hussars

Julian Matheson, 1st Hussars Museum <https://www.first-hussars.ca/>

Apeldoorn, Netherland Liberation Parade photo

<https://museum.48thhighlanders.ca/item/appeldorn-1945/>


Kapuskasing, ON Cenotaph photo


<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/7042>

* Do you have a photo of this soldier or additional information please contact info@facestograves.nl

February 27, 1941 ~ May 2, 2008 (age 67) 67 Years Old





 **Obituary**

 **Service Details**

On May 2nd 2008 after a brief battle with cancer, Carol Christine Edgington (nee Clark) passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her family. Born in Kapuskasing, Ontario on February 27th 1941, Carol and her family moved to Calgary in 1968. She was involved with the CWL, Toastmistress, church choirs, as well as the Guiding movement as a leader, commissioner, and music advisor. Carol also enjoyed a career in the banking industry for 20 years. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family. Carol was predeceased by her mother, Patricia Clark Davies, father Garfield Denby Clark, stepfather Jack (Rocky) Davies, sister Sally Matwichuk, and grandson Daniel Patrick Edgington. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Anthony "Terry" Edgington, sons Anthony (Anita), Patrick and Tony Edgington. Daughters, Alana (Dean) Bruce, Teressa (Sam) Brown, Grandchildren Jason, Richard, Holly, Robert and Ryan Edgington, Katrina Bruce, Justin, Megan and Caitlin Brown, and great grandson Taj Edgington. Carol is also survived by siblings, William (Lori) Davies, Roxanne (Andrew) Davies-Phillips, Jack Davies, and Sylvia (Greg) Davies-Mortimer, brother-in law Bill Matwichuk all of Ontario. She will also be remembered by many nieces and nephews. Relatives and friends are invited to Prayers and Tributes at Corpus Christi Catholic Church (404 Northmount Place NW) on Monday, May 5, 2008 at 7:00 pm. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Corpus Christi Catholic Church (404 Northmount Place NW) on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 10:30 am with The Rev. Paul Ranola, Presider. Condolences may be forwarded to the family through www.commemorativeservices.ca. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Alberta Lung Association (#302, 609-14th Street NW, Calgary, T2N 2A1), Alberta Cancer Foundation (c/o Tom Baker Cancer Centre, 1331-29th Street NW, Calgary, T2N 4N2), or the charity of your choice.

SHARE USING:    

 **Obituary**

 **Service Details**

Carol Christine Clark Edgington 2008 obituary - courtesy evanjstrong.com



Courtesy findagrave.com