



Joseph Comeau was born on May 28 1923 in St. Bernard, Nova Scotia, Canada. He was the 5th child of his parents, their first 4 children were all girls. Later another son would follow, and another daughter. Father died at the age of 50. A document from 1943 states he is listed as 'deceased'. The family was Roman Catholic, and had the French Canadian nationality. Joseph spoke English and French.

Joseph went to school until he was 16 achieved 'grade' 8. Then he left working as a lumberjack/forest worker. After the war, he would like to take up this work again, the forms say, but he would also like to become a carpenter, like his father.

Joseph enjoys skating, hunting, reading detective novels and around the house to work.

On January 27, 1943, he enlisted in the army in Halifax (as a NRMA conscript (National Resource Mobilization Act)). In the documents states that Joseph was seen as an average intelligence man, and a below average capacity for learning. Also people think he has a disinterested attitude, but one suspects that this may be improved through training.

Medically speaking there are few details, he has black hair, brown eyes, weighs 72 kg. and is about 1.78 tall. Sometimes he has trouble with his eyes and from his back. In 1938 he contracted a venereal disease. In 1940 he was unconscious (coma?) for six months as a result of a wound on his head.

Joseph is posted to the 1st Coast Regiment RCA, as a 'gunner'. In October 1943, Joseph was 'absent without leave' for a few days without permission. As punishment he is given 7 days of house arrest and 3 days' wages withheld.

On June 17, 1944, Joseph reported for active service in Halifax. He is posted to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Regiment, RCIC. In November 1944 he embarked for England, where he the 28th arrives. From there he will leave for Northwestern Europe in January 1945.

On April 9, 1945, Joseph was killed in Holland, near Haarle (Overijssel). A day later he was temporarily buried in Haarle (Nijverdal). Later he is reburied at the Canadian Military Cemetery in Holten, where he rests in plot 3, row D, grave 9.

Joseph is mentioned on the monument in Haarle together with the other 9 Canadian soldiers who died in Haarle.

