

Lt Albert Robert Coyston

6-C-4



Albert was born on December 4, 1914 in Oshawa, Ontario to Robert Henry Coyston (born in England and killed in WW I) and Ethel Millicent Coyston-Hudson of Galt, Ontario. Albert married Kathleen Veronica Coyston also from Galt on September 29, 1939 in Galt and they had a daughter Maureen Anne Coyston in 1940. His brother Henry Coyston also served in the Canadian army.

He was a painter and decorator and a member of the Church of England.

Albert's grandfather, father, and seven uncles all served in the army during World War I. Albert served in the Non-Permanent Active Militia of Canada from 1929 to 1935. He enlisted in the Highland Light Infantry of Canada at Galt, Ontario on June 4, 1940 and then went overseas from Halifax to the UK (Scotland) on July 21, 1941. In October 1942, Albert returned to Canada for officer training. In July 1943 he went back to the UK from Canada as a lieutenant, only to be sent to the front in Italy on March 3, 1944. In April he has an accident there and regains consciousness the next day in hospital, without being able to remember what happened. On August 11, 1944 Albert is sent to France to be trained as a paratrooper. He then joins a "special service" unit operating in Europe under US command. On December 4, 1944, that job is over and Albert rejoins the Perth Regiment in Italy. After the Nazis have largely been expelled from Italy, Albert and his regiment are shipped to Marseille (France) on February 21, 1945. From there they march to the north to be deployed in the liberation of the north and east of the Netherlands. Albert was killed on Saturday April 28, 1945 at the age of 30 during the battle for the Delfzijl Pocket. He was temporarily buried in Wirdum (Groningen) before finding his final resting place on February 16, 1946 at the Canadian cemetery in Holten.

His tombstone reads: WE LOVED HIM IN LIFE LET US NOT FORGET HIM IN DEATH. REQUIES CAT IN PACE

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



Lieut. Coyston Fought on Both Fronts

Funeral mass was held at St. Patrick's church this morning for Lieut. Albert Robert Coyston, 30, who was officially reported killed in action on April 29, according to a message received Saturday noon by his wife, 8 Bando avenue from the Director of Records, Ottawa.

The news of his death, coming at the end of the final moments of the European war, was a terrible shock to his family.

Lieut. Coyston had almost 7 years service in the active army. He was trained with the H.L.I. of C. in AM from 1929 to 1935; he went back to the unit again in 1939 and then went on active service where he was mobilized in June, 1940. He went overseas with the Highlanders and then returned to Canada for an officer's course. Proceeding overseas again he was sent to Italy where he served with the Perth regiment. Later he was on the Western Front with the U.S.-Canadian Special Service force of highly trained officers and men and then he went back to Italy again to rejoin the Perth Regiment. Again he moved back to the Western Front when the Canadians were moved out of Italy and he was fighting with the Perth Regiment when he paid the supreme sacrifice.

His father was killed in the First Great War. Born at Oshawa, Lieut. Coyston came to Galt as a boy and attended Manchester school and the Collegiate and was working as a painter before he joined the army.

Lieut. Coyston was a son of the late Robert Coyston and Mrs. Ethel Coyston and nephew and foster son of Arthur Coyston, 21 Kerr street. He is also survived by one daughter, Maureen, five years of age, and a brother, Lieut. Henry Coyston, who is serving in Germany.

