

Cpt John Woodrow Colburn

12-G-2



John was born on September 3, 1917 in Watford Ontario as the son of Edward Colburn and Lillian Waters, his parents were divorced at the time of his enlistment and his mother lived in Detroit, USA. He himself married Nancy Isabel from London, Ontario on June 30, 1942. They had a son John Brian, born in 1943. John's family were members of the United Church of Canada.

John graduated from the University of Western Ontario, London, Ont., in 1941.

Before enlisting, he worked as an engineer at Bell Telephone Co. in Toronto. He enlisted in London Ontario on July 25, 1941 and then went to the United Kingdom with the rank of Lieutenant on April 3, 1943. On July 8, 1944, he went to the front in France with his regiment, the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps.

He took part in the further advance of his regiment throughout NW Europe.

John was killed on Saturday, May 5, 1945 at the age of 27 during the battle in northwest Germany. He was then temporarily buried in Winschoten before being reburied in Holten on April 12, 1946.

On his gravestone: EARTH HAS NO SORROW THAT LOVE CANNOT HEAL

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

His mother and widow were awarded The Memorial Bar on June 14, 1945.

