Sapper



John was born on November 21, 1911 in Oshawa Ontario, son of George Albert Culbertson and Mary Ann Culbertson (deceased before 1945) of Belleville Ontario. They were married in in February 1910 in Oshawa. John is married on June 14, 1930 in Belleville with Mabel Florence Culbertson of Belleville and their son was John Harry Culbertson (1932). His brother was Gilbert Culbertson and his half brother was Albert Culbertson (also in the Army overseas). His half sisters were Georgeanna Lavina Johnson and Audrey Beau Hill. His half brother Russell Vincent Culbertson was already deceased in 1945.

John was a brass moulder and member of the Church of England. He was a First Nation of the Mohawk Band of the Tyendinaga Reserve of Deseronto Ontario.

He enlisted on June 14, 1944 in Kingston, Ontario and he was sent to the UK on November 30, 1944. On April 11, 1945 he left to fight on the front in North Western Europe, to be deployed in the liberation operations.

John was killed in action, less than three weeks later, on Monday April 30,1945 age 33, during the battle of Edewecht in Germany. He was temporarily buried in Ostercheps, Germany before being reburied on March 7 1946 in Holten at the Canadian War Cemetery.

On his headstone it reads:

A THOUGHT TRUE AND TENDER TO SHOW I STILL REMEMBER. REST IN PEACE. LOVING WIFE

His grave was adopted after the war by Mrs. Tini Veldman of Ommen. His name is mentioned with the 12 other fallen members of the league/band at a marble memorial which was erected at the Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory in RR 1 Deseronto by the THE KAN-YEN-CEN LEAGUE.

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; France Germany Star; War Medal; CVSM & Clasp. His mother and widow were awarded on June 6 1945 the Memorial Cross.

He served with the Royal Canadian Engineers.

