



### **Pte Corkery Cyril Farrell 8-C-14**

Corkery Cyril Farrell was born on June 23 1913. His parents were Elisabeth and Patrick Farrell and they had 9 children. They lived outside the village of Pakenham Ont. Corkery finished his school after 7 years. At the age of 14 he got his 7 grade and he decided to leave school to get to work. He began working as a farmhand on the family farm and later found work as a railway section man employed by Norman & Saunders. He continued to help at the family farm and in his spare time he was known to enjoy playing sports of any kind.

Enlisting in the army on June 12 1943 he went back home to Pakenham to await training.

On August 13 he received a call and travelled to Ottawa where he received his service number C 6142282 . Two weeks later he was transferred to Peterborough Ont to complete his basic training. At the end of October he went by train to Halifax but upon this transfer his service number was changed in C 115534. He was taken on strength with the Algonquin Reg. and on November 29 he was sent to St John NB. During this time here, he met his wife Alice May Murphy. She was born on August 6 1909 and lived with her family in St John.

After completing an application, Corkery received word on April 6 that he was allowed to marry his fiancé on June 15 1943. For the honeymoon he got permission from June 15-28.

On January 2 1945 Farrell disembarked in the UK. On February he was transferred to serve in North West Europe. The Algonquin Reg. was part of de 10 Canadian Infantry Brigade along with the Lincoln & Welland Reg. and the Sutherland Highlanders of Canada

On March 7 1945 the Algonquin Reg. Was tasked with attacking Veen (Germ) alongside with the Lincoln & Welland Reg. This attack was divided in three phases: first capturing outlying buildings, then buildings in the town, and finally capturing the town completely. There was fierce German fire with many German casualties and also many Canadians wounded and killed. There also were 12 Germans POW.

After that the Algonquin Reg. got on April 4 1945 the task to attack Wierden and to capture it. They succeeded in it despite strong German resistance on April 9 1945. Thereafter they went to the Küstenkanal and Oldenburg (Germ). They arrived there on April 14.. On April 17 they crossed this canal in assault boats supported by tanks of the British Columbia Reg., machine gun fire of the New Brunswick Rangers and gun fire of the division artillery. The Algonquin Reg. succeeded in despite fierce fire to establish a bridgehead. Reinforcements and tanks came the next day.

On April 18 1945 Pte Corkery Farrell was unfortunately killed during this attack together with 11 soldiers of the Algonquin Reg. They were temporarily buried at Friesoythe and after WW2 reburied with military honour at the Canadian Cemetery in Holten.

For his 780 days of active service in the army, Pte Farrell was eligible for three medals. He received the 1939-45 Star, the France Germany Star and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp.

He is commemorated in the Algonquin Reg WW 2 two Honor Roll and on the Pakenham Cenotaph.

A Memorial Cross was sent to his other and another to his wife Alice. She also received his War Service Gratuity, his service medals and his personal effects.

