

Fortin, Phidolin. Corporal

11-E-3



Born May 1, 1919 in Fontenelle, Quebec. He enlisted on March 21, 1941. He reported that his father was the next of kin, his mother had died. There is also a note that he had 2 brothers and a sister.

The inspection report stated that he was 1.65 m tall and weighed 63 kg; had blue eyes and brown hair.

He spent the first month of his service in Quebec and was known as a "gunner".

After a month he was transferred to No. 55 Canadian Army (Basic) Training Center – Rimouski.

At the end of June 1941, he moved to Petawawa-Ontario, training center A1. From mid-September 1941 he was assigned to the A-battery of the 11th Heavy Artillery, but still in Petawawa.



Petawawa August 1941

Via Camp Borden he went to Halifax in the second half of September 1941 to embark for England. Here he arrived on the 27th of that month.

There is a gap in the timeline of the records: 1941 and that of 1942, strangely enough, cannot be found.

The first notes are from 1943.

He was "shuffled" between artillery units and reinforcement units until July 1944.

Then came the crossing to France, he landed there on July 14, 1944.

On the 20th of July 1944 he changed units; from a gunner in the artillery, he became a soldier in the Régiment de la Chaudière.

Two more promotions followed: in January 1945 to Lance/Corporal and in March 1945 to Corporal.

From the War Diary of the Régiment de la Chaudière:

On April 21, 1945, the regiment moved from Zwolle, via Heerenveen, Leeuwarden, Groningen to the Winschoten area.

The next task for the regiment was to clear the route to Bunde -Germany.

There were no clear comments to read about the progress and the resistance encountered.

However, the report of 6 victims on April 25, 1945, of which 3 deaths. One of those: Phidolin Fortin.

le 25 avril 1945		
D- E-104009	Cpl Roy	G. Mort au Champ d'Honneur
D- E-630123	Pte Dupere	T. Mort au Champ d'Honneur
D E-1181,	A/Cpl Fortin,	P. Mort au Champ d'Honneur
B E-101232	A/Cpl Corby,	R. Liste X-3.
A D-135613	Pte Dupuis,	JF. Liste X-3.
D E-13181	Pte Thibault	A. Liste X-3.

He was temporarily buried in front of a school in Heide a hamlet near Weener D.

His resting place became CWGC Holten Canadian War Cemetery 11-E-3.

His awards:

1939-1945 Star; France-Germany Star; Defense Medal; War Medal 1939-1945 and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with clasp.

