

William Gattinger

Lieutenant

11-H-14

William was born on January 7, 1920 in Bessarabia (nowadays Romania), to Ludwig (Louis) and Amelia Gattinger (both Romanians).

The family emigrated to Canada in 1927 where they lived in Broadview, Saskatchewan. William had one brother, Martin and two sisters.

William took a keen interest in scouting and even met Lord Baden-Powell when he visited Regina. He attended the High School in Broadview for four years (1935-38) and he studied English and German at school during eight years. William was a miner and member of the Protestant Church.

From 1936-1939 he served with the 110th Field Battery of the N.P.A.M. in Broadview. The N.P.A.M. was the backbone of national Defence, consisting of civilians who trained in their spare time.

Shortly after Canada became directly involved in World War II, William volunteered with the Canadian army on November 1, 1940. He enlisted in Val d'Or, Quebec. Soon after (December 1940) he was moved to Gourock, Scotland.

Years of military training followed. During his time in the UK he got married to Mary Mabel Gattinger née Taylor of Ashton, Preston UK. They married on June 9 1944 in Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, UK.

After all those years of training he finally went to the front line in France on November 4 1944. William was wounded and hospitalized but recovered to take part in the liberation of the Netherlands. From there the

Broadview man killed

BROADVIEW— Lieut. William Gattinger, an army surveyor overseas with the Canadians, was killed in action April 25, according to advice sent his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Gattinger, Broadview. Lieut. Gattinger was born in Bessarabia in 1920 and came to Canada with his parents when seven years old.

Lieut. Gattinger was educated at Broadview, took a keen interest in

scouting, and was received by Lord Baden Powell on his last visit to Regina.

He joined the 101st Battery early in the war, was wounded, hospitalized and then given his commission.

He is survived by his widow, his parents, a brother, Martin, serving overseas, and two sisters at home.

fighting continued into Germany. Although the Germans knew they were on the losing side they strongly defended their country.

William was killed in action on Wednesday April 25, 1945 at the age of 25. He was temporarily buried then in Wildeshausen (Between Cloppenburg and Bremen in Northwest Germany) before being reburied on July 19, 1946 in Holten.

On his headstone it reads: "YEAH, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, I WILL FEAR NO EVIL" (Psalm 23:4).

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

He served with the 2 Survey Regiment, The Royal Canadian Artillery.

