

Cpl Maurice James Hughes

8-E-5



Maurice was born on December 19, 1919 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island to James M. and Nora Hughes (both British and living in Charlottetown). Maurice's parents were also married in Charlottetown on May 9, 1916. His brothers were Richard, Francis and Reggie Hughes and his sisters were Mrs. Doris McCallum, Mrs. Mary Krasnoer and Ruth Hughes. Maurice's family was Roman Catholic.

At the age of 15, Maurice started working at a grocer after a year of high school. In the final months before his enlistment, he was an assistant fireman at the Maritime Electric Company in Charlottetown.

Maurice served with the 6th District Signals RCCS of the Non-Permanent Active Militia of Canada from May 17, 1937 to September 2, 1939. He enlisted in the Army on September 2, 1939 at Charlottetown and then went overseas on July 31, 1941 to Avonmouth, United Kingdom. There he was assigned to the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals - 3rd Cdn Div Sigs. Maurice took part in the Normandy landings on June 6, 1944, D-Day. He and his regiment were involved in the Allied advance through Northwest Europe.

Maurice was killed in action on Thursday 2 May, 1945 at the age of 25 near Leer in Northwest Germany. He was temporarily buried in Irrhove, (D) before being reburied on March 12, 1946 in Holten.

On his tombstone: OUR DARLING SON. MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE. MOTHER AND FATHER

His grave was adopted by Mr. J. Schut from Deventer.

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

His mother was awarded The Memorial Cross on June 9, 1945.

