

## Pte William Harold Lewis

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William was born on April 27, 1925 in Marlbank, Hastings County, Ontario to William J. and Addie P. Lewis, of Marlbank. His parents were married on December 11, 1912 in Selby, Ontario. William had four sisters: the married Isabell McCarey and Helen, Mildred and Alma Lewis.

William left school at the age of 14 and at the time of enlisting William worked as a truck driver. The Lewis family were members of the Methodist Church.

William enlisted in Kingston, Ontario on December 29, 1943. After his training at Camp Borden and Debert, among others, he then went overseas to the United Kingdom on November 28, 1944. He was sent to Northwestern Europe on February 15, 1945. There he was assigned to the Algonquin Regiment, which was active in the Rhineland offensive at the time. After heavy fighting in the Reichswald and the Hochwald, the Germans were driven back behind the Rhine at the end of March. The Algonquin Regiment first moved through the eastern Netherlands and then back into Germany, towards the North.

The Nazis still offered fierce resistance there. William was killed on Tuesday, April 10, 1945 at the age of 19 during fighting in the area of Papenburg in Emsland (D). When he drove into a landmine with his carrier on the way to Leer (D), he was fatally struck. William was first temporarily buried near Dörpen (D) before he was reburied in Holten on March 15, 1946.

On his gravestone: GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS LOVED ONES

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

