Pte Meehan Andrew

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Andrew Meehan was born in Strabane, Donegal in Ireland. Andrew was the second youngest of 12 children to Robert and Adelaide Meehan.

Robert and Adelaide and their family left Londonderry, Ireland on March 24, 1928 aboard the Cameronia. When they arrived on March 31, 1928, they had been on the boat for a whole week. I am sure many stories were shared over the years of the 12 young children on that boat. They then arrived too late to catch the train and they all had to sleep overnight in a box car (more fun for the children). The family finally settled in

Hammondvale, New Brunswick.

Andrew married Doris Brown (Doris' father owned a saw mill in Upham, NB) and when Andrew came to work at the saw mill he met his future bride.

Doris and Andrew had one daughter, named Doreen.

In November, 1943 Andrew enlisted with the Carleton and York regiment and trained at Camp Gagetown, New Brunswick. In October, 1944 the soldiers were taken by convoys to Halifax, Nova Scotia and shipped overseas at night because the German submarines were off the Halifax Harbour. They were not allowed to contact family at home in any way so that the Germans would not find out what their plans were.

When making an attack on a small village, Andrew's company were on the front lines and Andrew was on one of the lead sections and a mine exploded. Sadly Andrew was killed instantly on April 24, 1945 at the young age of 21. Needless to say, his young wife and small daughter and all of Andrew's and Doris' families were devastated.

Andrew was buried in a little Canadian cemetery in Staplemoor/Heide, Germany but after the war ended, Andrew was transferred to the Holten Canadian Cemetery.

Andrew's wife Doris never remarried and passed away on Oct. 13, 2010 at the age of 83 in Barnesville, New Brunswick.

Doreen, Andrew's daughter knows that someday, in a better land, she will meet her father again and they will sit together under a big oak tree, beside a beautiful river and catch up on SO many things they missed.

Andrew's family are truly grateful to the caring volunteers at the Holten Canadian Cemetery. They give so much of their time to look after the cemetery.

