

Newall Douglas

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Douglas was born on November 12, 1920 in Glasgow, Scotland to John Summerville (d. 1944) and Elizabeth Jane Newall of Calgary. Douglas' parents were Scottish and married in Glasgow in 1917. His brothers were Hector Newall (RCN Overseas) and Alistair Newall (RCAF Overseas). Another brother, sergeant in the RCAF, Ronald R. Newall died of a tetanus infection in an English hospital on September 11, 1944 at the age of 20. He had two sisters Gladys Connery of Calgary who was his beneficiary and Valerie Newall. The Newall family were members of the United Church.

Douglas went to school until he was 13, where he achieved grade 7. He then worked on K. Bennett's farm in Calgary Alta. While enlisting in the army he was a tractor driver.

Douglas enlisted in Calgary on June 18, 1940 and went overseas to Gourock, Scotland on December 9, 1940. On August 18, 1942, he was one of the six thousand soldiers who carried out the tragically failed attack on Dieppe (Fr.) during Operation Jubilee. He was one of only two thousand men who were able to return to England unscathed the next day.

He remained in England for training until he arrived on the battlefield in Normandy on July 7, 1944. Douglas was assigned to the 1st Field Park Company of the Royal Canadian Engineers. He moved with his regiment to the Netherlands and in April 1945 they were near Haarle, Overijssel. He died there on Monday April 9, 1945 at the age of 24.

Douglas was buried in a temporary cemetery at the church in Haarle before he was reburied on February 5, 1946 at the Field of Honor in Holten. On April 9, 9 other Canadian soldiers were killed by enemy fire during the liberation of Haarle. All are mentioned on the monument in Haarle.

On his gravestone: HE BRAVELY ANSWERED DUTY'S CALL AND GAVE HIS LIFE FOR ONE AND ALL

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; France Germany Star; Defense Medal; War medal; CVSM & Clasp. The Dieppe Bar was sent to his family on November 4, 1999.

His mother and sister Gladys were awarded The Memorial Cross on May 18, 1945.

