

Eric Goland Parr Pearson

04 E 15

Born: June 1, 1921

Died: September 25, 1945

Rank: Trooper

Force: British Columbia Dragoons (R.C.A.C), 9th Armoured Regiment

Grave location: Plot 04, Row E, Grave 15

Commemorations:

- the France-Germany Star
- a War Medal
- the 1939-1945 Star
- the Italy Star
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal (with clasp)



Eric Goland Parr Pearson was born in Mission City, British Columbia, on June 1st, 1921. His family included his father, Daniel Ambrose Pearson, his mother, Lavinia Rosella Pearson, six brothers, and two sisters. He was good student and was involved in many athletic programs such as softball, football, and basketball. He was 6'1", 146 lbs. at the time of enlistment. He was an enthusiastic young man whose passion was working on cars, motorcycling, and reading westerns and detective mysteries. He enjoyed attending dances. Pearson was a Protestant Christian and worked as millworker and truck driver (qualified Class III) at a lumber mill before signing up for military service.

Pearson was a Trooper stationed with the 9th Canadian Armoured Regiment (BCD C.A.) and was transferred from Canada to the United Kingdom, then to France and Italy and finally to the Czech Republic. It was in Stary Plzecec, in the Czech Republic, after a night of drinking with fellow soldiers that Trooper Pearson died. It is believed

that the alcohol that he had consumed was laced with toxic methyl alcohol. He was hospitalized and initially treated for acute gastritis. Despite medical interventions, Trooper Pearson died from alcohol poisoning on September 25th, 1945. After a court investigation into his death, negligence was ruled out. It was determined that his prior battle with malaria weakened his liver's ability to handle alcohol, leading to his death. He served a total of 992 days in service, and during his service earned several accolades, including the War Medal, the 1939-1945 Star, the France-Germany Medal, the Italy Star, and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal. All of these medals were entitled to his mother after his death.

Trooper Pearson was laid to rest in the Holton cemetery, Grave 15, Row E, Plot 4, alongside many other Canadian soldiers who participated in the liberation of Holland were.

While he never got the hero's death he deserved, Trooper Pearson's bravery, willingness to die for freedom, and the respect he earned during his service make him a hero nonetheless.

We are eternally grateful for your service and sacrifice.

Written by: Vuk Milutinovic, Lester B. Pearson High School & Stef Hendriksen, Gymnasium Apeldoorn