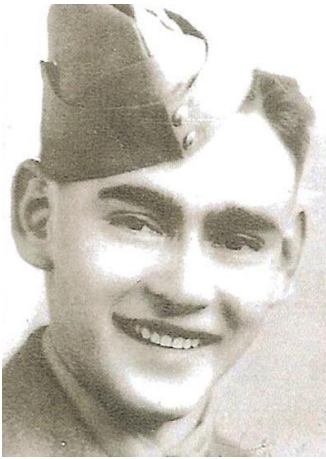


Pte James Ducharme

2-B-15



James was born on December 13, 1922 in The Pas, Manitoba to Pascal and Virginia Ducharme-Boyer of The Pas. Both parents were native, according to the 1901 census his father (born in 1884) was a Cippewa FB and his mother Virginia (also born in 1884) was a Cree. They both had French Canadian nationality. They were married on August 24, 1903 in St Laurent Manitoba. James brothers were Jérémie (also in the army), Firmin Edouard and Arthur Ducharme and his sister was Louise Ducharme.

Six siblings died before 1945: Hilaire (1910), Adelard (1916), Catherine (1917), Ubald (1919), Eveline (1920) and Damase (1928).

James was a laborer and a member of the Roman Catholic Church. James was a First Nation because of his parents' descent, although he did not speak an indigenous language but did speak English and French.

James enlisted in Winnipeg Manitoba on January 9, 1943 and went overseas to the United Kingdom on August 25, 1943. From July 19 to August 11, 1944 he is in Italy and is assigned to the regiment of the 48th Highlanders of Canada. From August 12 to December 7, 1944, he returned temporarily to France, before being sent back to Italy on December 9. With his regiment, James took part in liberation operations in various areas on Italian soil. He went back to France on March 12, 1945 to further liberate Northwest Europe.

James was killed on Sunday, April 15, 1945 at the age of 22 during the advance to Apeldoorn. He was temporarily buried in Wilp before being reburied on December 21, 1945 in Holten.

On his tombstone: ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO HIM, O LORD; AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HIM

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

His mother was awarded The Memorial Cross on May 21, 1945.

