

Remembering . . .

# "Some days it all comes back," says Silver Cross Mother

By KATHY STUNDEN  
Of The Examiner

Remembering the war dead is something foreign to many of us. The almost infinite number of soldiers graves are thousands of miles away.

But for some, Remembrance Day brings back many painful recollections.

"I don't look forward to this time of year," says Ellen Wallace, this year's silver cross mother.

The silver cross is given to

mothers whose sons have served in the war.

"I can go on for days and days and not think much about the war and then a day like this comes along and brings it all back."

Wallace's son Jack who now lives in Ottawa, served in World War II and was seriously injured. He had to have one of his legs amputated. Her husband Jack who was 14 when he signed up to go overseas during World War I, also served in World War II with the American army and son Doug served in the Korean War.

Ted, the second son, anxious to follow in his father and brother Jack's footsteps, gave

up his officer's commission so he could serve overseas as a private.

"Deep down in my heart, I think Ted was afraid he wouldn't get to go overseas," says Wallace.

Ted, who was 19-years-old when he went to Europe in 1944, was killed less than a year later in his regiment's last engagement, just three weeks before the war ended.

His father Jack was about 10 miles away from the site where Ted was killed. He searched the area to find Ted's grave to erect a cross on it in a final tribute.

Wallace says she has visited the grave in Holten Cemetery

in Holland and says she wonders "if it's really Ted buried there."

"If you see a military cemetery, it's heart breaking — it's so vast. I visited the cemetery with my husband and then with my granddaughter. To go alone would be a bewildering experience."

"I remember getting such a shock when I visited Ted's grave and two rows over I saw where a young lad, a son of one of the girl's I went to school with, was buried."

"Today, the kids look on Remembrance Day as just another holiday, but there were so many mothers and wives who suffered a great deal."

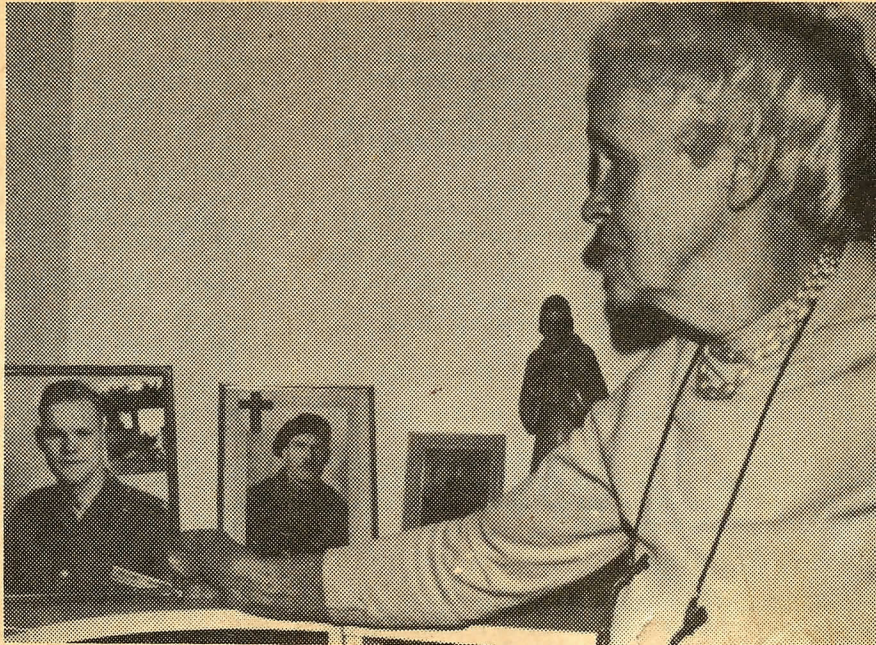
## people and places

### Camera Club

The Barrie Camera Club will hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12 at the Georgian College Nurses' Residence, 61 Wellington St. West. The guest speaker is from Visual Heights School of Photography. For information call Donna McQuay at 487-5870.

### Nordic Ski Club

The Barrie Nordic Ski Club is holding its annual information and registration night Wednesday, Nov. 11 at the Georgian College cafeteria in the Theatre building from 7-10 p.m. The Ontario SkiCade will have poly snow for indoor demonstrations and there'll also be a winter camping display, films, waxing techniques, local retailers, tourist and club information.



Ellen Wallace, this year's silver cross mother, says "the war was a bad time for so many people but you weren't alone by any means." (Examiner Photo)