

Pte Ronald Eugene Smith

2-F-14



Ronald was born on August 28, 1925 in Clarence Nova Scotia to Floyd Murdock Smith and Ruby Gertrude Smith, who were married on May 9, 1923 in Weston, Nova Scotia. His brother was Allison Palmer Smith.

Ronald left school at the age of 15 to work with his parents on the farm in Bridgetown, Nova Scotia. Ronald's family were members of the Baptist Church.

Ronald enlisted in Halifax Nova Scotia on January 6, 1944 and received his military training in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He was embarked at the end of November 1944 and arrived in the United Kingdom on 6 December. Shortly afterwards, January 24, 1945, he was embarked again to be deployed to the West Nova Scotia Regiment during the battle in Italy. On March 22, 1945 he went to the Netherlands via Marseille, France. At the end of March 1945, the Canadian army was ordered to advance to the IJsselmeer and the Waddenzee. Ronald took part with his regiment in Operation CannonsHOT, which started on April 11, 1945 with the crossing of the IJssel river and then with the Allied advance towards Apeldoorn.

Ronald was killed on Saturday, April 14, 1945 at the age of 19 during the liberation of Wilp/Achterhoek. He was temporarily buried there before being reburied in Holten on January 26, 1946.

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; Italy Star; War Medal; CVSM & Clasp.

His mother was awarded The Memorial Cross on May 23, 1946.

