



Who were his parents?

Theresa Solose (listed as next of kin), Anthony Solose

Where was he born?

Arad, Rumania. 2 October, 1921

Where did he live before he enlisted?

2201 Franklin Street, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

Did he have brothers and sisters?

After he died, in a file about his relatives it reads:

Father of deceased: Anthony Solose, 51

Mother of deceased: Theresa Solose, 49

Brothers of deceased: Anthony Solose, 25. Paul Solose, 18.

Sisters of deceased: Anna Bowman, 31. Theresa Solose, 13.

When did he join the army?

3 February, 1943

Did he go to a military education in Great Britain?

When John arrived in Britain in early January 1945, he was attached to a Canadian Infantry Training Regiment.

Is there any information about the period that he fought in Europe?

From the military records, it looks like he was transferred to the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry on March 11, 1945. Killed in Action on April 13, 1945.

He was posthumously awarded two campaign medals: 1939-1945 Star and France Germany Star War Medal 1939-1945.

Other information

One report from Dec 12, 1944 from a captain when John was in Vernon B.C. states:

"He is sensitive to civilian criticism of his NRMA [National Resources Mobilization Act] status and is very anxious to take out citizenship papers."

While working at the winery in the summer of 1941 a young boy had fallen into a pond behind the winery, he ran out and jumped in the pond and saved the young boy.

Johnny was also a very stylish dresser. Oma used to say "that if you're a nobody and you dress well then you're a somebody".

What was his religion?

Roman Catholic

What school did he graduate from?

On his military files under Educational Background it reads:

Completed entrance and 1 year High School - night classes in wood-working. Left at 17 years.

Did he have hobby's?

He loved gymnastics and he was a very strong swimmer and would swim in the Welland River. He used to swim up the river and float his way back.

On his Personal Selection Record it reads: He is enthusiastic about swimming and also likes baseball and hockey.

What kind of job did he have before he enlisted?

He picked fruit in the summer as a young boy and he loved to work in the family garden (helped his mother). Also when he was a young boy he worked in one of the large hotels in the city as a car washer.

He worked at Bright's Winery as a cooper along side his father.

On his military files under Occupational Background it reads:

Garage - attendant, mechanic and driver for 1.5 years.
Barrel and Tank Cooper for 2.5 years.