



John was born on June 28, 1925 in Lakeview, Ontario to John and Myrtle Florence Swain of Toronto. Father John was from Wales and married Myrthe Florence on April 12, 1920 in Port Credit, Ontario. John had one brother and one married sister and three single sisters. In religion, John's family belonged to the United Church of Canada

John left school at the age of 14 after achieving "grade 8". At the time of his enlistment in the army, John was working as hat finisher.

He enlisted in Toronto on June 28, 1943 and after military training in Brampton and Camp Borden, he went overseas to the United Kingdom on July 11, 1944. There John was trained and found competent as a tank driver. On November 12, 1944 he was sent to Northwestern Europe and attached to the R.C.A.C. 1st Armd. Personnel Carrier Regiment.

John was killed on Monday, April 9, 1945 at the age of 19 during the battle for Haarle. His "kangaroo" was hit by a German tank and John was mortally wounded. His remains were temporarily buried in Haarle together with the 9 other Canadian liberators who died during the liberation of Haarle. John was reburied in Holten on February 4, 1946.

On his gravestone: MAY YOU AWAKE, JACK, TO A NEW DAWN FIRED WITH SUN, NOT WAR. EVER IN OUR MEMORIES

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

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

He is mentioned on a monument in Haarle together with the 9 other fallen Canadian soldiers.

