

This is the story of JAMES RICHARD GOW



JAMES RICHARD GOW was called Dick to avoid confusion. He was born to James & Ruth Gow of Cudworth Saskatchewan on May 28th 1923. He was the 3rd of 5 children. His siblings were: Beth Peddie, 1919-1995; Pat McFee, 1921-2019; David Gow, 1928-1939; and Ruth Price of Comox British Columbia.

Dick was very athletic. He played hockey. He loved life. His sister Beth called him “a handsome devil”. His sister Pat said “he was just a kid, too young”. His sister Ruth said “he spoiled her (as she was the baby of the family)”. Dick’s parents were very proud of him.

Dick was very young when he enlisted – only 17 years old. On his application form he said he was 19 years old. His Dad reluctantly gave him his blessing with the stipulation that he join the Forestry Corp. So the Forestry Corp it was.

After training in Canada & a leave at home with his family in May 1941, he was shipped to Scotland. He left Halifax on June 6th 1941 & arrived in the U.K. on July 2nd 1941.

He served with the Forestry Corp in Scotland until April 1943. At that time he transferred to the Armoured Corp somewhere in the U.K. He was trained as a driver/mechanic of a tank. After completing his training he was transferred to somewhere in Europe.

Dick was killed in Germany when his tank blew up on April 25th 1945 – just one month shy of his 22nd birthday. He was buried in Germany and then reburied in the Holten Canadian Military Cemetery.

In 1957 Dick’s youngest sister Ruth & her husband Les Price visited Dick’s grave and were able to thank the family that looked after his grave.

Our family is forever grateful to all the Dutch who have never forgotten all our Canadian loved ones and especially our Uncle Dick.

Thank you

The Family of James Richard Gow

(provided by Margaret Bekker (niece of James Richard Gow), September 2020 for the Holten Cemetery project)



Ruth Dick. Mother Ruth



Dad James & Dick



Dick & sister Beth



Beth Dick Dad Mum Pat Grandmother



Beth Ruth Dick Pat & Marmalade (cat)



Beth Mum & Dick



Dick & Marmalade



Pat Dick Ruth, Mother



Dad Ruth Dick Mum Beth Pat