



Leo was born March 4, 1924 in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Leo was the son of Frank Robert Toney and Mary Lucy Bradford of Cambridge, Nova Scotia. They were married on May 29 1901 in Caledonia, Nova Scotia. His brothers were Thomas Leo and Patrick Abram Toney and his sisters Mary Irene McDonald and Rita Maude Smith. They were of Mi'kmaq ancestry and member of the Annapolis Valley First Nation.

Before he enlisted in 1943 in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Leo worked as a farmer for Earl Brown of Cambridge. Upon enlistment he was initially stationed at the No 6 District

Depot on Chebucto Road in Halifax.

On January 14, 1944 he was sent to the Canadian Infantry Training Centre (CITC) in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia for training. On April 30, 1944 he was assigned to the Canadian Infantry Training Centre (CITC) in Aldershot, Nova Scotia.

Leo arrived in the United Kingdom on July 27, 1944 and transferred to the Canadian Base Reinforcement Group (CBRG). On August 18, 1944 he went to France as a member of the PEI Light Horse Regiment, and then, on October 6, 1944 was transferred to the South Saskatchewan Regiment.

in early April 1945, the liberation of Holten, The Netherlands, began as troops crossed the Twente Canal and began to build a bridge. In a brief account by Lt Col G. B. Buchanan in *'The March Of The Prairie Men: ...The intention of the 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade was to pass through 5th Canadian Infantry Brigade and hold a bridgehead over the Schipbeek Canal north of Laren....'*

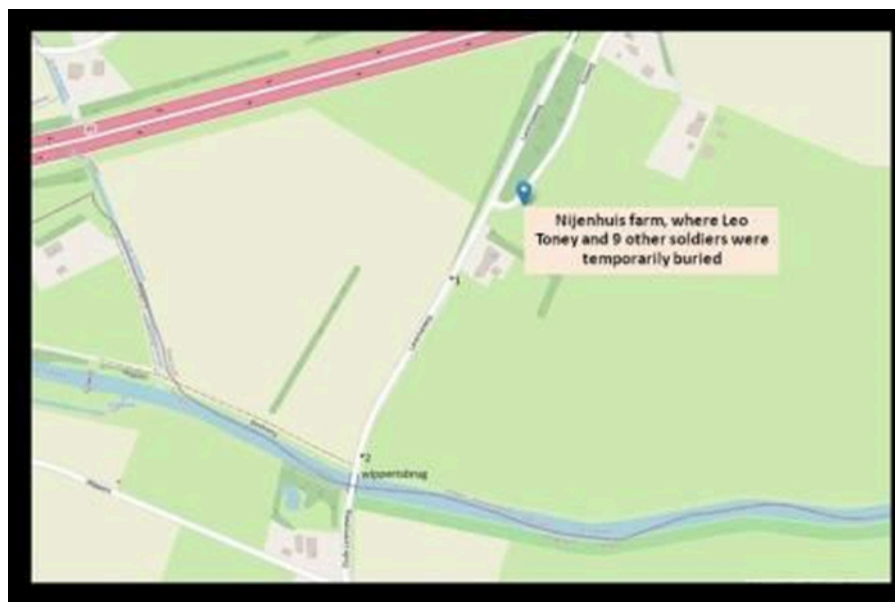
They made it safely across on April 5. They got stuck at the Schipbeek after the Germans blew up all bridges on April 6, and a bridgehead was formed at a weir on the border of the municipalities of Bathmen and Holten.

The heavily defended Wipperts Bridge (Wippertsbrug) was a major obstacle between Laren and Holten.

“...The South Saskatchewan Regiment was to make the crossing with ‘H’ hour set at 03.30 hours, 7th April. ‘C’ and ‘D’ Companies were to make the initial crossings with ‘A’ and ‘B’ Companies passing through them. The opening artillery barrage caused casualties when a few rounds fell short....”

At some point during the fighting, Leo was killed in action on Saturday, April 7, 1945. In addition to Leo, seven members of the South Saskatchewan Regiment lost their lives in the battle.

Leo and his fellow soldiers from the South Saskatchewan Regiment, , were temporarily buried in a field on the Nijenhuis farm, just near (100m.) the Wippertsbrug.



Leo was reburied at the Canadian War Cemetery in Holten after the war on December 16, 1945



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

On April 7, 2016 a memorial was placed to honour the members of the South Saskatchewan Regiment who died during this event