



Fred Tucker was the sixth of Ernest and Ida (Wendling) Tucker's family of 10 children. They raised their family in a very humble environment and with modest means during a time when the World was suffering from depression. Despite their lowly resources they were a happy and loving family.

They instilled in their children the importance of respect, responsibility and religious faith. Fred was an ultimate example of these attributes. He was very energetic and thorough with his school studies, his employment and in all he undertook. He would create laughter with occasional display of a mischievous sense of humour.

While attending High School he worked after school hours and on Saturdays delivering

telegrams to homes by bicycle for the Canadian Telegraph Company. His training in typing while attending high school and his excellent handwriting stood him in good stead, enabling him to procure a full-time office position in a meat packing plant. He, along with all of his siblings, gave their earnings to their parents in order to assist with the financial obligations during the hard times of the Great Depression, and especially now that their father Ernest had passed away in 1939.

Fred's brother Bill, two years his senior, was called into the military in 1940 at 21 years of age. Fred then received his call in 1942. It was arranged that he would be placed in the Saint John Fusiliers with his brother. While Bill was being trained for ground fighting, Fred was not obliged to engage in basic military training. It was decided that his office experience and typing skills would be more valuable in the office. He continued in this position with the Fusiliers throughout their moves to various parts of the country.

Bill and Fred both enlisted for active duty in 1943. They were then sent to England and it was here where they became separated as they were assigned to different Regiments. Bill was assigned to the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada Regiment and Fred to the Perth Regiment.

Bill's regiment was sent to the conflicts in Italy. He was wounded there with shrapnel to his head, but was able to leave hospital in order to join his regiment which was now its way to Holland to assist with the fighting there. Meanwhile Fred's regiment was sent to Holland where they were also in heavy conflict, Fred though, continued toiling in the office.

By the spring of 1945 it became apparent that the war could be near an end. As it turned out, in April of that year Holland had been completely liberated except for one pocket in Northern Holland where the Germans were still resisting. It was the Perth Regiment who were involved in this conflict. History has it that because their active fighting personnel had become seriously depleted, all personnel in positions of non combat were called on to fill the void. This explained why Fred who had worked only in the office throughout his entire military sojourn became involved in conflict. It was a horribly sad surprise to his widowed mother and to his siblings when she was presented, with a telegram to inform her that Fred had been killed in combat on April 29, 1945. He was the last member of the Perth regiment to lose his life in Holland.

