

**Wallace, George Edward**

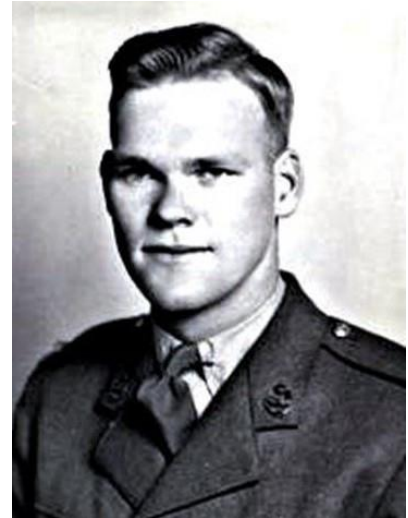
**Trooper**

**1<sup>st</sup> Hussars, 6<sup>th</sup> Armoured Regiment**

**Royal Canadian**

**Armoured Corps**

**B/4843**



George Edward ("Ted") Wallace was born 4 October 1922 at Esquimalt, British Columbia (BC). His mother Ellen Elizabeth Alice McDermott, who had English and Irish parents, moved to Canada with her family in 1906. Ted's father William John Arthur Wallace also came from England to Canada as a boy in 1914. He enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force age sixteen and served overseas during World War One. Following his discharge in 1918



he returned to Canada and joined the Princess Patricia Canada Light Infantry (PPCLI) as part of the Canadian Army's Permanent Force in 1919.

William and Ellen were married at Port Credit, Ontario in 1920 and were subsequently stationed at Esquimalt, BC with PPCLI "B" Company.

*Work Point Barracks, Esquimalt, BC*

*Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg, Manitoba*

William and Ellen had three sons while living in BC: John ("Jack") Francis, Ted and Douglas Gerald. The Wallace family followed Ellen's Roman Catholic religion. They were transferred to PPCLI "A" Company at Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg, Manitoba around 1930.



*Major F. F. Worthington (centre) explains the details of a British Mark VI light tank to Prime Minister Mackenzie King and his party when they visited the new training ground at Camp Borden in 1938.*



William's rank as a professional soldier had progressed to Major when the family moved again in 1938, this time to Barrie, Ontario (ON) close by Camp Borden, ON where he was stationed. Major F.F. Worthington, William's PPCLI comrade, was instrumental in establishing a Canadian Armoured Training School at Camp Borden around that time.

Ted attended Barrie Collegiate Institute where he played basketball and rugby. He also enjoyed swimming, hunting and

photography. The Wallace family attended St. Mary's Catholic Church in Barrie and Ted was a member of the St. Mary's Young People's Club.

*St. Mary's Catholic Church, Barrie, ON*



Ted held various summer jobs at Camp Borden, including working as a batman, waiter and performing construction labour. He received four years of Cadet training at High School and completed his Junior Matriculation. He then took a Commercial Diploma course, graduating in 1942. Ted considered finding clerical work before deciding to follow his family tradition of military service and join the Canadian Army. Ted's father William had been transferred to England in 1941 with 1<sup>st</sup> Army Tank Brigade while his mother Ellen remained at Barrie with their younger sons. His older brother Jack became an Officer with the Three Rivers Regiment, redesignated 12<sup>th</sup> Canadian Armoured Regiment (12CAR).

Ted enlisted 20 April 1942 at Camp Borden, ON age 19. He presented a letter from F.F. Worthington, who was by then a Major-General serving in England, requesting that Ted be despatched to the Canadian Armoured Corps (C.A.C.) Training Centre at Camp Borden. Ted was a tall man at 6'2", 160 lbs with blue eyes and had achieved the maximum Pulhems test score. Beyond Worthington's letter of recommendation and his family military heritage, Ted made his own impression on the Army Recruiter who commented about him: "Soldier is of superior mentality, impresses as normal emotionally and well balanced in character. Seems of sound stability and dependability. An excellent type for consideration as officer material. Should be given standard C.A.C. training with a view to training for commission after completion".

*Camp Borden, ON WW2*



While undertaking armoured training at Borden Ted became a Tradesman Clerk Group "C". He qualified as Driver Class III 31 March 1943. Ted was sent to Three Rivers, Quebec 27 May – 22 July 1943 and did well on his suitability testing to enter the Officer training program. He was enrolled in the Officer Cadet Training Course at Gordon Head, BC and was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 16 October 1943. Ted rejoined the C.A.C. Training Regiment at Borden with the General Staff.



Ted's brother Lieutenant Jack Wallace was serving with his Three Rivers tank regiment (12CAR) at Termoli, Italy supporting British Infantry during an attack 6 October 1943. He commanded their "C" Squadron number 5 Troop and was in the leading tank when it was hit by several enemy shells. His Driver and Gunner were killed and one of Jack's legs was crushed. He later lost his leg and received a Military Cross for his actions that day.

*Three Rivers (12CAR) crewmen by knocked out German tank, Termoli, Italy October 1943*

*Ottawa Citizen, November 1943*

**SERIOUSLY WOUNDED**  
**Canadian Armored Corps**  
**WALLACE, John Francis, Lieut.,**  
**Barrie, Ont.**

Ted's father Major William Wallace enrolled in a Civil Affairs and Military Government Course June 1944 in the UK and was posted to First US Army. He was assigned to take over the Civil Affairs Detachment in Normandy, France that August following the Allied D-Day invasion. Ted had remained stationed at Borden and in order to serve overseas was permitted to retire and then reenlist at Toronto, ON 30 August 1944. He returned to Borden as acting Sergeant and qualified Clerk "B" 16 September 1944.

Ted reverted rank to Trooper and disembarked in the UK 20 October 1944 where he reported to the C.A.C. Reinforcement Unit. He qualified as Gunner Operator "C" in the UK 8 December 1944. Ted disembarked in Northwest Europe 18 March 1945 and wrote a letter home from Ghent, Belgium. He was taken on strength by the 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars, 6<sup>th</sup> Canadian Armoured Regiment (6CAR) 9 April 1945 in the Netherlands.



LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

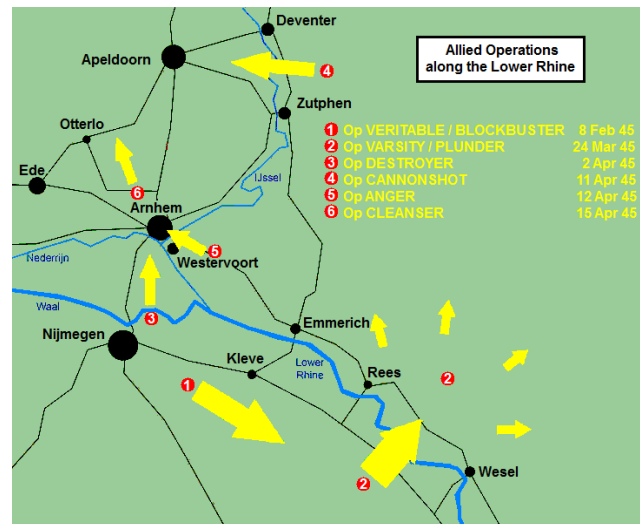
Troops from the Royal Winnipeg Rifles and Regina Rifles watch as tanks of the 1st Hussars land near Courseulles-sur-Mer, France, on D-Day in

The 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars formed part of 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Armoured Brigade along with the Fort Garry Horse (10<sup>th</sup> Armoured Regiment) and the Sherbrooke Fusiliers (27<sup>th</sup> Armoured Regiment). 6CAR supported 7<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade on D-Day to establish a beach head at Courseulles-sur-Mer, France.

6CAR participated in the capture of Caen in July, followed by the Battle of Verrières Ridge. The Allies forced the Germans retreat from Normandy that summer. The 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars helped clear Channel ports in September. 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Armoured Brigade had limited involvement in the Battle of the Scheldt that fall due to the wet ground conditions in Belgium and the Netherlands. First Canadian Army took up static positions around Nijmegen, Netherlands in November against a well entrenched enemy.

The Allies Operation VERITABLE offensive was launched February 1945, with 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Armoured Brigade advancing into Cleve, Germany. 6CAR suffered numerous casualties at the Hochwald Forest during the second phase of the Allied offensive, Operation BLOCKBUSTER

Following BLOCKBUSTER, 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Armoured Brigade withdrew to the Nijmegen area while the Allies worked towards building bridges to cross the Rhine River with the Germans defending from the other side. The 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars came under the command of 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Infantry Division 6 April 1945, which had been redeployed from Italy to Northwest Europe. They crossed the IJssel River between Deventer and Zutphen, Netherlands 12 April 1945 while supporting 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade.



*Allied Operations Apeldoorn Area April 1945*

6CAR's next assignment was to support 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigades at Apeldoorn, Netherlands. Lieutenant Edward Brock, a platoon leader with the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders, recalled the battle that commenced 13 April 1945 in his memoir: "The battle for Apeldoorn started with an amazing amount of support for we PBI (poor bloody infantry) – more artillery, tank and air support than we had ever seen before... We had the 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars for tank support with their versatile Shermans and, all we need do was indicate points of resistance with our tracer fire and they would hit the spot with those devastating 17 pounders. They were the most willing tank support I ever saw and as long as we could protect them against anti-tank fire, they would assist us in our attack."

Apeldoorn was still occupied by Dutch citizens so the Canadians could not bomb it. By midnight 13 April 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade had closed up to the Apeldoorn Canal and the Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) was running patrols in the suburbs. That night a squadron of 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars and a company of RCR tried to cross the canal but were rebuffed with the loss of two tanks. 6CAR "C" Squadron was still supporting the RCR on 14 April 1945. Their plan of attack to take the bridge crossing the Appeldoorn Canal was not successful due to their two leading tanks being stopped at a road block near the bridge. This resulted in one tank being hit by a German anti-tank gun and 'brewed up' (burning) with casualties. The other tank returned to 6CAR Squadron Command with casualties and also caught on fire. Ted Wallace was one of the 6CAR casualties that day, killed in action, age 22.

14 Apr 45.

The plan adopted to take the bridge was as follows: Two tks were to follow a 5 minute Arty concentration and move across the bridge. On a code word from the leading tks, 8 more tks, loaded with infantry were to move forward, consolidate and mop up. This attack was not successful due to the leading tks hitting a rd block 50x from bridge, causing one tk to be bazookoed, brew up and have casualties; the other tk to return to Sqn Comd, with casualties and then brew up. The rest of the day, 3 Troops and HQF were concentrated in area 804040, 2 Troops remaining forward on outskirts of town with infantry. At 1800 hrs an O Gp was held by infantry and Sqn suffered casualties. Extent: 1 Officer killed and 1 wounded. Infantry lost 1 Officer killed and 1 wounded. Remainder of night, the 2 Coys of infantry tried to move forward without armour, but made no gains and suffered casualties. Four 75mm tks were standing by all night to assist infantry but were not used.

SQN LOSSES

- 2 - Tanks Brewed.
- 1 - Officer and 3 ORs killed.
- 3 - Officers & 4 ORs wounded.
- 3 - Missing.

6CAR War Diary "C" Squadron Supplement 14 April 1945

<small>M.F.M. 267 50M-9-44 (5834) H.Q. 1772-39-1989</small>	
<b>CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS</b>	
AL	FILE H.Q. 405-W-17,410
CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) <span style="float: right;">OTTAWA 20 APRIL 1945</span>	
TO:-MRS ELLEN A WALLACE 48 MARY ST BARRIE ONT	
75164 REGRET DEEPLY B4843 TROOPER GEORGE EDWARD WALLACE HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION FOURTEENTH APRIL 1945 STOP YOU SHOULD RECEIVE FURTHER DETAILS BY MAIL DIRECT FROM THE UNIT IN THE THEATRE OF WAR STOP TO PREVENT POSSIBLE AID TO OUR ENEMIES DO NOT DIVULGE DATE OF CASUALTY OR NAME OF UNIT	
PREPAID	DIRECTOR OF RECORDS

## TPR. TED WALLACE KILLED IN ACTION POSSIBLY HOLLAND

Tpr. George Edward 'Ted' Wallace, age 22, has been reported killed in action. He was a son of Major W. J. A. Wallace, overseas, and Mrs. Wallace, 43 Mary St., Barrie. He was a younger brother of L. Jack Wallace, who lost



TPR. G. E. WALLACE

## TPR. G. E. WALLACE

his right leg and won the Military Cross for heroic action in Italy in October, 1943.

Tpr. Ted Wallace was believed to have been in action with his unit in Holland only about two weeks when he was killed. His father, Major Wallace, is with the Allied Military Government in Holland.

Major Wallace has been in the permanent army for 27 years and his family has moved about good deal in that time. Ted was born in Victoria, B.C., and attended separate schools there and in Winnipeg, Man. The family came to Barrie in 1938 and Ted was student at BCI from that time until he enlisted for active service in April, 1942. He played snap of the BCI rugby team and in 1941

(Turn to page two, please)

## TPR. TED WALLACE KILLED IN ACTION POSSIBLY HOLLAND

(Continued from page one)

winter months was active on school basketball teams. A member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, he also belonged to St. Mary's Young People's Club.

At the time Ted joined the Army, his father and older brother Jack were already overseas. Ted trained at Camp Borden and Hamilton and then went to Gordon Head, B.C., where he was commissioned in June, 1943. He served as a lieutenant at Camp Borden for one year, and in August 1944, he reverted to the rank of trooper to go overseas.

Tpr. Wallace went overseas in October, 1944, and was in England five months. He went over to the Continent in March, 1945, with two other Barrie boys, Tpr. Bill Higgins and Tpr. Bob Parsons. After reaching the Continent the trio was broken up, Tpr. Parsons going to a carrier regiment and the other two being sent to another unit.

In his last letter home, Tpr. Wallace told of spending a short leave in Ghent. This was a few days before he was reported killed.

Mrs. Wallace has had no word from her husband indicating that he knew of the death of their son, who was probably only a few miles away. However, she has sent him a direct cable.

Lt. Jack Wallace, who spent five

years in the Army, is studying at St. Michael's College, Toronto, where the youngest boy of the family, Douglas, is also a student.

The two boys were home with their mother in Barrie over the weekend and friends of the family attended a Requiem High Mass service in St. Mary's Church conducted by Dean Clair, Monday morning.

Barrie Examiner May 1945





Trooper G.E. Wallace was temporarily buried at Gorssel, Netherlands and later relocated to Holten Canadian War Cemetery, grave reference **XII. F. 9.**

*Photo Credit lestweforget1945.com*

The inscription on his headstone:

TO LIVE IN HEARTS

WE LEAVE BEHIND

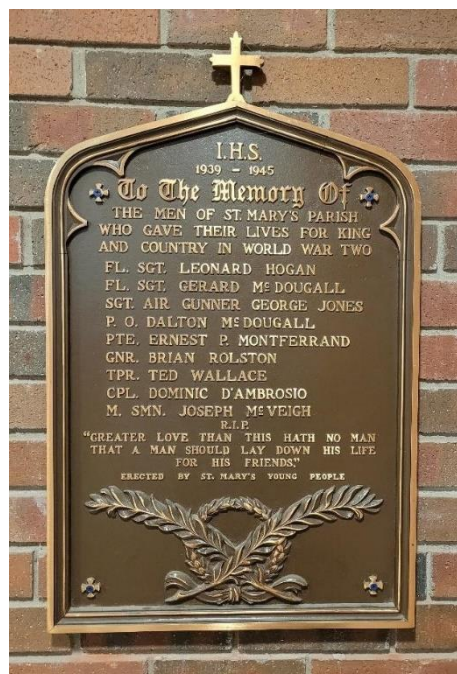
IS NOT TO DIE

R.I.P

Ted Wallace's campaign medals:

- 1939-45 Star
- France-Germany Star
- War Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal/Clasp

*Ted Wallace's name is listed on the St, Mary's Catholic Church Barrie, ON WW2 Memorial plaque.*



*Ted Wallace's name is listed on the Barrie, ON Cenotaph as one of their local WW2 fallen.*



Biography by Jim Little, Research Team Faces to Graves.

#### Sources Consulted:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Library and Archives Canada

Veteran Affairs Canada – Canadian Virtual War Memorial

Ancestry public trees

Newspapers.com

Work Point Barracks Esquimalt, BC picture

<https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/esquimaltduringwwl/home/work-point-barracks/>

Fort Osborne Barracks, Winnipeg, Manitoba picture

<https://onthisspot.ca/regional/internment/stories/winnipegstation>

Major F.F. Worthington 1938 Camp Borden, ON information and photo

<https://militarybruce.com/fighting-frank-the-father-of-the-royal-canadian-armoured-corps/>

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Barrie, ON photo

<https://www.barrietoday.com/columns/remember-this/remember-this-soldier-stories-the-fortunate-five-part-1-6093170>

Camp Borden, ON tank picture <https://www.ontrmuseum.ca/tankmuseum/blog-post/ontr-tanks-of-second-world-war/>

Lieutenant John ("Jack") Francis Wallace information <https://www.12rbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/War-Chronicles-Charles-Prieur-Anglais.pdf>

Three Rivers Regiment (12CAR) Termoli, Italy photo

<https://x.com/WW2Today/status/1713154175163420808>

1<sup>st</sup> Hussars Regimental information and photos <https://sharrob56.wixsite.com/first-hussars-wwii/blank-1>

1<sup>st</sup> Hussars cap badge picture <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/military-history/history-heritage/official-military-history-lineages/lineages/armour-regiments/1st-hussars.html>

1<sup>st</sup> Hussars battle information [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st\\_Hussars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Hussars)

Julian Matheson, 1<sup>st</sup> Hussars Museum <https://www.first-hussars.ca/>

Operation Blockbuster information

<https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/UN/Canada/CA/Victory/Victory-19.html>

Adams, Sharon. 2021. Canadian Summer in Apeldoorn. Legion Magazine. <https://legionmagazine.com/en/2021/04/canadian-summer-in-apeldoorn/>

Brock, Edward (Memoir). My Last Battle.

<https://www.canadianletters.ca/content/document-17852>

Allied operations map Apeldoorn area and battle details

<https://www.canadiansoldiers.com/history/battlehonours/northwesteurope/apeldoorn.htm>

Barrie, ON Cenotaph picture

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/en/remembrance/memorials/national-inventory-canadian-memorials/details/5665>

\* Do you have a photo of this soldier or additional information please contact [info@facestograves.nl](mailto:info@facestograves.nl)

*Toronto Star 1974*

WALLACE, William John Arthur (Jack) (Formerly of R.C.A.C.)—At the Royal Victoria Hospital, Barrie on Friday, November 22, 1974. William John Arthur (Jack) Wallace, formerly of R.C.A.C. in his 74th year. Beloved husband of Ellen McDermott, dear father of John of Ottawa, Douglas of Winnipeg, and Edward deceased. Survived also by 6 grandchildren. Resting at the Steckley Funeral Home, 30 Worsley St., Barrie, after 7 p.m. Saturday Funeral Mass at St. Mary's Church, Barrie on Monday, November 25, at 10:30 a.m. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery.



*Ottawa Citizen 2006*

**WALLACE, John Francis (Jack)  
WWII Veteran**

Unexpectedly but peacefully on Tuesday March 7, 2006 at age 84. Loving husband of Cathy (Galvin), devoted father of Ted (Karen), Ann Hatchell (Jonathan), Jane Longchamps (Donald), Peter (Julia), and Caroline Davies (Greg). Adoring grandfather of Michael, Andrew, Emma and Margot Wallace; Alexandra, James and Matthew Hatchell; Jessica Longchamps; Hannah, Lucy and Sophie Wallace; Sam, Jack and Alicia Davies. Jack was predeceased by his brothers Ted, killed in action in Holland during the Second World War, and Doug, who served during the Korean War. A veteran of the Second World War, Jack was awarded the Military Cross for his gallantry at Termoli, Italy in October 1943 while serving with the Three Rivers Regiment (12th Armored). Jack loved his country passionately. He was a proud Canadian who received numerous awards and distinctions while serving his country. A simple man with a straightforward approach to life, Jack was, and still is, an inspiration to those he leaves behind. Last October, Jack celebrated the fiftieth wedding anniversary of his marriage to precious Cathy with his five loving children, their spouses and his 14 adoring grandchildren. Jack liked nothing better than being surrounded by family and took great pride in spending time with each and every one of his grandchildren. Jack's family would like to thank the Bay Medical Centre in Panama City Beach, Florida where Jack took ill, and the Heart Institute of the Ottawa Civic Hospital. Funeral Monday, March 20, 2006 at Saint Patrick's Church, Fallowfield for Mass of Christian Funeral at 1:30 p.m. A reception will follow the funeral service in Saint Patrick's Church Hall. Donations in memory of Jack to the University of Ottawa - Heart Institute would be appreciated.