

Kenneth Ward had a few bad scars on his head and lower arms. The scars came from an accident in the garage of his father, Harrie Ward, in Glen Aller, not far from Toronto in Canada.

Ken received bad burns when petrol caught fire. He was in hospital for two weeks, but recovered.

Ken didn't suffer anymore when he, as a nineteen year old boy, was approved for the Canadian army. The young Ward had blue/green eyes and dark grey hair, nearly black. He weighed more than 71 kilos and measured 1,74 metres in height when he was examined: a short stature. Ken Ward didn't join the army because of a career. He wanted to remain with his father in the business and become garage owner, he said. His profession was a mechanic.

But it was war time, the Canadian army was recruiting young men to fight in Western Europe. So Ken joined the army. He stayed in Canada for a long time, not far from his home town Glen Aller in Toronto. He ended up in hospital before even getting into action.

In October of 1943 he got serious stomach pains. Appendicitis, the doctor reported. He had to go to hospital for three weeks. But he recovered.

9 months later it really started. He was shipped to England on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1944. A few months later on 9<sup>th</sup> September he was placed in the Queen's own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, sent to the North Western battlefield in Belgium. Hit in his back; a terrible open wound, wanting hospital care, but he recovered.

The Queen's own Cameron Highlanders made a great contribution to liberating Belgium; East and Northern Holland and North West Germany. On 23<sup>rd</sup> April Ken and his comrades had the task of advancing to the German Delmenhorst.

This became fatal for him.

Ken died on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1945. Two days later he was temporarily buried in the village of Kirchhatten, south west of Delmenhorst.

His father and mother, Harrie and Kathleen and his sisters Dorothy and Betty received a message of his death on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. He was later buried in the Canadian War Cemetery in Holten where he lies in plot X, row B, grave 14.

0044 (0-44) (00001)  
P.C. 1772-10-1000

**CANADIAN NATIONAL  
TELEGRAPHS**

CNC FILE H.Q. 405-15,345

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) OTTAWA 2 MAY 1945

TO: MRS KATHLEEN WARD  
GLEN ALLAN ONTARIO

71487 REGRET DEEPLY A105157 PRIVATE KENNETH WARD HAS BEEN  
OFFICIALLY REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION TWENTYFOURTH 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 17

Bron: Service Files of the Second World War - War dead, 1939-1947, Library and Archives Canada  
Ottawa

Jan Braakman, april 2016 (eigenaar van alle rechten op dit document)

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