

**Wilder, James Edward**

**Gunner**

**10-D-16**



James was born on June 23 1921 in Mayfair, Ontario, the son of Jim/James Willder (English) and Mary Willder of Chatham, Ontario. They were married on September 15 1909 in Ontario. He was married on June 3 1944 in Bolton UK with Elsie Willder nee Jones of Bolton. His brothers were William Charles Willder (also in the Army), Thomas Austin Willder, (also in the Army) and his sisters were Jean Louise Willder (Mrs. Edward Campbell) and Evelyn Ward Willder (Mrs. Lawrence Jeffrey). Their other brother John

Raymond Willder was already deceased in February 1928 during the infancy.

He was a labourer and member of the Salvation Army. He attended the High School till Grade VI.

He enlisted on July 29 1940 in Chatham, Ontario. He asked on August 31 1941 permission for a voluntary transfer to The Royal Canadian Artillery 7 Field Regt. to serve officially on September 15 1941 with his older brother there. He went on November 22 1941 thereafter overseas to the UK and he went on July 7 1944 then to France. He participated after the arrival then in the NW Europe with his regiment for a time in some fierce fights and battles during the advance of his regiment through NW Europe.

James died of wounds received in action on Saturday April 28 1945 age 23 during the fierce fights due to the advance to NW Germany. He was temporarily buried then in Meppen, Germany before being reburied on March 18 1946 in Holten.

His medals were: 1939-45 Star; France Germany Star; Defence Medal; War Medal; CVSM & Clasp

On his headstone: AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

He served with The Royal Canadian Artillery 7 Medium Regt.

