

Private John Des Jardine

The Perth Regiment

Family Life:

John was born on September 10, 1903, to Jean and Amelia (nee Daigle) Des Jardine in Owen Sound although he was raised in Tobermory. In his youth, he attended St Edmund's Settlement School Number One in Tobermory.

John married Christena Ann Wyonch and the couple were blessed with four children, Amelia Christena, Edith Faye, Elizabeth Ann and Wanda Lynne.

John was a fisherman and tour boat guide and after being discharged from the military he continued in these jobs. He guided many patrons on hunting and fishing trips. He was an active member of the Tobermory Legion including being the Sergeant-at-Arms.

John passed away at the age of



Decorations:

- Defence Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal
- War Medal 1939-1945

81 on June 15, 1985.

Service History:

Private Des Jardine enlisted with the Perth Regiment on October 6, 1939. During the Second World War, the Perth Regiment did extensive recruiting in Bruce County and placed these new recruits in 'B' Company.

The Perth Regiment trained for two years in Canada before embarking for the United Kingdom in October 1941. It was determined that the Perth Regiment would be attached to the 11th Infantry Brigade as part of the 5th Armoured Division.

Private Des Jardine served with the Perth Regiment during this time as a cook. As fate would have it, Private Des Jardine was diagnosed with rheumatic fever and returned to Canada. He was discharged on October 9, 1942.

Interesting Stories:

Given that John was with the Perths for roughly a year in the United Kingdom, he would have experienced the endless training schemes that they were put through to prepare for battle. The Perth Regiment would see its first action in early 1944, in Italy. They fought valiantly during the Italian Campaign helping breach the Gothic Line before being relocated to the Netherlands with the 5th Canadian Armoured Division in early 1945. John would have lost many close comrades during these battles.