

Honouring Our Local Veterans

2009

Robert (Bob) Alexander

Birthdate: May 26, 1930

Rank / Branch: Mechanic, Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineering

Unit: 25th Infantry Brigade, Grey and Simcoe Foresters

Region: Canada (various locations for training), the United States (further training), and Korea

Served: 1949-1952

Community: Owen Sound

Medals / Decorations:

- Korea Medal
- Volunteer Service Medal
- United Nations Service Medal Korea
- Canadian Forces Decoration with 2 bars



Military Service

Bob enlisted in Toronto on April 22, 1949. He was issued four service numbers over the course of his career, the first two were SB153872, and B538831.

Bob was stationed in Kingston, Ontario (Barriefield) at the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineering school for basic training during May and June of 1949. He then went to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in July until September, 1949 for Mechanic Training. Later, Bob was posted to a workshop in Camp Borden, Ontario from October, 1949 to October, 1950. Bob was then posted to the 25th Infantry Brigade workshop to go to Korea. The Canadian Brigade was assembled in Fort Lewis, Washington, USA. Bob was trained to become a vehicle mechanic. He was discharged in August, 1952.

Bob was also involved with the Grey & Simcoe Foresters, reaching the rank of Master Warrant Officer. His duties included Driver Training & Unit Transport Officer until his retirement in 1982. Bob was then appointed to the Cadet Instructor list and served as Supply Officer for 167 Air Marshal Bishop Squadron from 1983 until final discharge in September, 1995.

Frank Ball

Birthdate: May 29, 1918

Rank / Branch: Trooper, Royal Armoured Corps

Unit: 44th Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps

Region: Great Britain (various locations for training and service),
North Africa, Italy, and Germany

Served: 1939-1945

Community: Bristol, ENG; Toronto, ON; Burnhamthorpe, ON;
Oakville, ON; Bramalea, ON; Tara, ON; and Chesley, ON

Medals / Decorations:

- 1939 - 1945 Star
- African Star
- 1939 - 1945 War Medal
- Territorial Medal
- Lapel Pin for loyal service and medical discharge



Military Service

Frank enlisted in Bristol, England in 1939 and was issued the service number 7894510.

He trained to become a tank driver-operator and gunner, attaining the rank of Trooper.

Frank was stationed on the English Channel Coast and North Africa with the 44th Royal Tank Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps. One of Frank's specific jobs was to liaison for the commanding officer.

Frank was involved in numerous battles in North Africa and was taken prisoner of war on June 1, 1942. He was taken to Italy and Germany.

Frank was discharged on September 20, 1945

Isavela (Vee) Baskerville (nee Perry)

Birthdate: March 7, 1920

Rank / Branch: Corporal, Royal Canadian Air Force – Women's
Division

Unit: Lab Assistant – Medical Nutrition

Region: Canada (various locations for training and service)

Served: 1943-1945

Community: Winnipeg, MB; Edmonton, AB; and Chesley, ON

Medals / Decorations: Vee was awarded two medals on discharge.



Military Service

Vee enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force, Women's Division in January, 1943 at Edmonton, Alberta. She was issued the service number W-309382.

Vee was stationed for a short time in Ottawa, Ontario for Basic Training. She would later be stationed to Guelph, Ontario, Sydney and Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Vee worked as a lab assistant, which was the very job she was doing before she enlisted. Vee attained the rank of Corporal. While at Guelph, Vee worked in a medical nutrition lab, analyzing food for vitamin B2, iron, phosphorous and vitamin C. When she was stationed in Sydney and Dartmouth, Vee worked in Hospital labs.

She was never sent overseas, and was discharged on December 19, 1945.

Eldred Crawford

Birthdate: October 28, 1924

Rank / Branch: Leading Aircraftsman, Royal Canadian Air Force

Unit: #426 Bomber Squadron

Region: Canada (various locations for training), Great Britain

Served: 1943-1946

Community: Allenford, Guelph, Toronto, and Owen Sound

Medals / Decorations:

- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp
- War Medal 1939-1945



Military Service

Eldred enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force in Owen Sound during July, 1943. He was issued the service number R272517.

Eldred was stationed for training to the Alberta Institute of Technology (Sept 1943-Feb 1944), Montreal (March 1944-Aug 1944), Mount Hope—now the Hamilton Airport (Sept 1944-Oct 1944). He was then sent to Clinton Wireless School (Nov 1944), followed by Gimli, Manitoba (Dec 1944-March 1945). During this time Eldred attained the rank of LAC when he graduated.

Eldred was stationed overseas to England in Bournemouth, Dishforth with the #426 Squadron in Yorkshire, Down Ampney in Gloucestershire, and Croydon on the outskirts of London with Transport Squadrons.

His jobs and duties included checking and repairing all radio equipment, both in the aircraft and at the base (and a satellite connected with the base) and making sure all radio equipment was working perfectly. Eldred was part of the #426 Bomber Squadron, Yorkshire. He was discharged in June, 1946.

Clarence Edward (Bill) Furness

Birthdate: December 20, 1923

Rank / Branch: Flying Officer, Royal Canadian Air Force

Unit: Royal Air Force Squadron #299

Region: Canada (various locations for training), Great Britain, and numerous sorties over Europe

Served: 1942-1945

Community: Owen Sound, Sauble Beach

Medals / Decorations:

- 1939-1945 Star
- Air Crew Europe Star
- France & German Star
- Defence Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal



Military Service

Bill enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force on October 28, 1942 in London, Ontario. He was assigned the service number J-43611.

Bill's basic training took place in Edmonton, Alberta in 1943. He moved on to Mossbank, Saskatchewan for bombing and gunnery school in 1943 - 1944. Later in 1944, Bill was stationed in Edmonton again for Navigational Training. Bill also received extensive training in Conversion to 4 Engine Bombers and in Towing Gliders. Bill trained to become a Bombardier. He attained the rank of Leading Aircraftman in 1943 -1944. In 1944, he became a Pilot Officer and by 1945 he had attained the rank of Flying Officer.

Bill was stationed to Bury St. Emonds, England, he was then transferred to the Royal Air Force Squadron 299. Bill flew all over Europe, towing gliders, dropping supplies and flying troops into European countries after the war ended. Bill was discharged in September, 1945.

Andrew Haggins

Birthdate: October 1, 1922

Rank / Branch: Pilot Officer, Royal Canadian Air Force

Unit: 408 Squadron and 432 Squadron

Region: Canada (various locations for training and service),
Great Britain, and sorties over the North Atlantic and

Europe Served: 1940-1945

Community: Cottam, Windsor, Toronto, Sarnia, Brussels, and
Port Elgin

Medals / Decorations:

- Air Gunner Wing
- 1939 - 1945 Star
- Aircrew Europe Star
- Defence of Britain Medal
- 1939 - 45 Victory Medal
- Caterpillar Club (for bailing out)
- Goldfish Club (for ditching)



Military Service

Andrew enlisted with the Royal Canadian Air Force at Windsor, Ontario in November, 1940. He was then posted to the Toronto Manning Depot on January 5, 1941 where he had his basic training. His regimental number R83180 with the rank of AC2.

In April, 1941 Andrew was posted to #1 Bombing and Gunnery School in Jarvis, Ontario. He remained there as Ground Crew until February, 1942, at which time he received a posting overseas. Andrew left from Halifax, NS. on a Dutch ship, the Cameronia Troop ship, landing in Scotland 14 days later. Andrew was posted to 408 Squadron, a "Canadian Squadron" in Southern England. In January of 1943, Andrew remustered to Air Crew as an Air Gunner, training in Morpeth, England. He received his Air Gunners Wing and the rank of Sergeant.

Andrew was posted to 432 Squadron in May, 1943 at the RCAF Air Base in Skipton, England flying Wellington Twin Engine Bombers. In September of 1943, Andrew survived a ditching in the North Sea, and in November of that same year he bailed out of a burning plane. Andrew returned to Canada and was medically discharged on January 15, 1945.

James Murray Jolley

Birthdate: September 1, 1925

Rank / Branch: Lance Corporal, Canadian Army

Unit: Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, New Brunswick Hussars and 11th Canadian Armoured

Region: Canada (various locations for training), England, North Africa, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany

Served: 1942-1946

Community: St. Vincent Township, Meaford, Owen Sound, and Toronto

Medals / Decorations:

- 1939-1945 Star
- Italy Star
- France and Germany Star
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp
- Victory Medal



Military Service

Murray enlisted in the Army in Meaford in 1942 and was issued the service number B43838.

He was sent to Fort Garry, Manitoba where he received his high school diploma.

Murray was also stationed at Camp Borden.

Murray trained to become a Tank Gunner - Operator, attaining the rank of Lance Corporal.

Murray was stationed overseas and served in England, North Africa, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He served with the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards, New Brunswick Hussars and the 11th Canadian Armoured.

While overseas, Murray was involved in the Hitler Line, Cassino and the Italian Campaign.

He was discharged January 9, 1946.

Alexander McMillian

Birthdate: April 5, 1922

Rank / Branch: Flight Lieutenant, Royal Air Force

Unit: 223 Squadron

Region: Great Britain (various locations for training and service), the Bahamas, and India

Served: 1941- 1946

Community: Glasgow, Scotland; London, England; Sudbury, Ontario; and Owen Sound, Ontario

Medals / Decorations:

- Distinguished Flying Cross 1945
- Victory Medal
- 1939-1945 Medal
- Star of France
- Germany Medal
- Defense Medal



Military Service

Alexander joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (R.A.F.V.R.) in 1941 at Edinburgh.

He waited 6 months to be called up, spent 2 weeks at St. John's Wood and finally went to Scarborough, England (Yorkshire) for Initial Training Wing (I.T.W.).

Alexander was initially assigned the service number of 1564640 and attained the rank of Aircraftman 2nd Class while serving in the R.A.F.V.R.

Once he was called up, he was assigned the service number of 163527 and attained the rank of Commissioned – Flight Lieutenant which was his rank until he was demobilized.

In 1945 Alexander was posted to Catterick and then to Transport Command. He trained as Pilot in Leicester, England. In 1942 Alexander was stationed to Bronston, England. During the winter of 1942, he was at Heaton Park. Alexander served with 223 Squadron on Special Duties. Alexander also served as a Navigation Officer. He was discharged in 1946.

Murray Slumskie

Birthdate: November 14, 1924

Rank / Branch: Sergeant, Canadian Army

Unit: 98th Battery, 4th Anti Tank Regiment; and 5th Armoured Division 8 Army

Region: Canada (various locations for training), Great Britain, Central Mediterranean, and Northwest Europe

Served: 1941-1946

Community: Owen Sound

Medals / Decorations:

- 1939-1945 Star
- Italy Star
- France and Germany Star
- Defence Medal
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal with Clasp
- War Medal 1939-1945



Military Service

Murray enlisted in London, Ontario in 1941 and was issued the service number A47127.

He was stationed in Petawawa, Ontario for Basic Training and also trained in England. He worked with the infantry as a Tank Commander on an M-10 Tank Destroyer (anti-tank).

Murray held many ranks during the years beginning as a Gunner on April 17, 1941. He soon rose to Acting Lance Bombardier by March 28, 1943 and Acting Bombardier on June 6, 1943. Murray attained the rank of Lance Bombardier on June 28, 1943, Bombardier on October 2, 1943, Lance Sergeant on September 12, 1944 and Acting Sergeant on October 1, 1944. Murray finally earned the rank of Sergeant on January 1, 1945.

He served in Britain, the Central Mediterranean area and in Northwest Europe in the 98 Battery, 4th Anti Tank Regiment, and 5 Arm Division 8 Army.

Murray was involved in the Hitler Line, the Gothic Line and many more battles in Northwest Europe.

Murray was discharged on March 7, 1946.