

Huber, Walter Leo, Trooper (L84635)

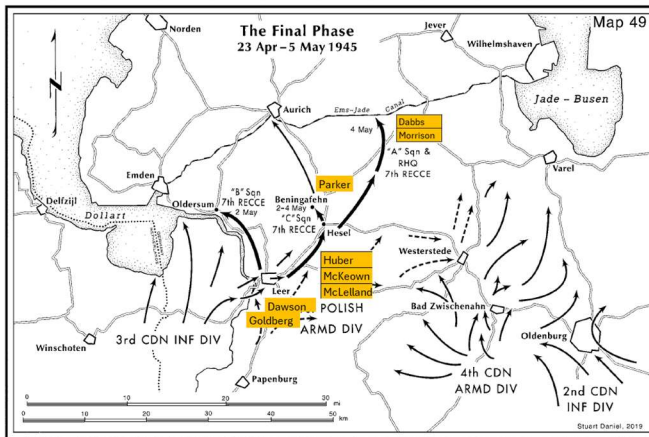


- Walter Leo Huber was born on 19 July 1918 at Earl Grey, Saskatchewan. He was 26 years old when he died of wounds on 12 May 1945 in Germany.
- On 20 March 1942, he enlisted at the District depot at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and was transferred to the King's Own Rifles of Canada for basic training. He then continued training in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Camp Debert, Nova Scotia. On 21 August 1942, he was sent overseas to England and posted to the 1st and 3rd Canadian Armoured Corps Reinforcement Units. On 18 October 1943 he was transferred to the 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment. On 15 July 1944, he, and his squadron ("C" Squadron) were deployed to France.
- He had no prior military service.
- Prior to enlisting, he was employed for ten months as a service station attendant at Art Riddell's Service Station in Regina Saskatchewan. He also worked for four years on the family farm.
- He left school at the age of 16 after completing grade 9. He also worked for 10 months as a mechanic's apprentice.
- According to his medical examination, he was 5 foot 10 inches tall and weighed 141 pounds. He had blue eyes and brown hair. He was found fit for category A.
- He was the son of Frank S. and Ludwicka (Step-mother) Huber, of Serath, Saskatchewan. He had 5 surviving siblings; Herman (31), Albert (30), Fred (28), Ernest (25), and Mary Mossier (23).
- He was a bachelor with no children.
- In Walter's will, he left \$50 to his friend Sergeant Muriel Hillier of the C.W.A.C. and the remainder to his brother Herman Frederick Huber of Serath, Saskatchewan.
- His body is buried in the Holten Canadian War Cemetery, Overijssel, Netherlands (Ref: VII. F. 3.)(plot, row, grave)

Context

- After liberating the northern part of the Netherlands, the Regiment and the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division were ordered to cross into Germany and start clearing the Rheider peninsula. The first elements of the Regiment entered Germany during the second half of April 1945. Unlike the Netherlands, where the enemy was withdrawing using delaying tactics, the German forces were determined to fight. They had prepared their defences and laid thousands of mines

and were much more aggressive. Further, the local population had no incentive to help the Allied Forces, and the ground was soft and boggy making it more difficult to manoeuvre. These factors combined to increase the number of casualties.



- According to the War Diary: At 08:00 hours on 5 May 1945, the “CEASE FIRE” order became effective. On the 6 May 1945, the regiment received orders to move to the AURICHE area. On the 9 May 1945, each squadron was attached to one of the Division’s brigades until the sweeps of their respective areas were completed. On 11 May 1945, a very unfortunate accident took place at 1400 hours when a carrier from Nine Troop “C” Squadron ran over a mine near LEER. The crew of six were evacuated to the Hospital where D3831 Corporal McKeown, B.J., L84635 Trooper Huber W.L., and D95623 Trooper McLelland, J.T. succumbed to their wounds.

