

Ludwig, Frederick, Corporal (H26577)



- Frederick Ludwig was born on 17 August 1918 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. He was 33 years old when he died from a self-inflicted injury on 23 October 1945 at Weener, Germany.
- On 8 January 1941, he enlisted for active service in Winnipeg, Manitoba and was immediately transferred to The Fort Gary Horse that was training at Camp Borden, Ontario. On 9 November 1941, he was transferred with his unit to England. The unit took up position in Southern England, first to be available in case of any potential German invasion, and then to help with an invasion of France. He and his squadron were deployed to France on 6 June 1944 (D-Day). On 3 September, he transferred to the 2nd 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment (part of the Canadian Army Occupation Force in Germany).
- Prior to enlisting, he served from 1930 to 1936 in the Royal Canadian Signals in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- Prior to enlisting, he worked as a metal worker with different railways.
- He completed 7 years of public school. He spoke German as well as English.
- According to his medical examination, he was 5 foot 7.5 inches tall and weighed 130 pounds. He had blue eyes. He was found fit for category A.
- He is the son of George and Matilda Ludwig, who had married in Russia in 1906. The couple was separated, and the latter lived at 328 Talbot Avenue, Elmwood, Manitoba. Frederick had five siblings; Robert (36), Tabitha (32) Leonard (27), Edward (23), and Roberta (18). All three of his brothers were serving in the forces in Europe.
- He was single and had no children.
- The sole beneficiary named in Frederick's will, was his mother.
- His body is buried in the Holten Canadian War Cemetery, Overijssel, Netherlands (Ref: XII. D. 2.)(plot, row, grave)

Context

- On 5 May 1945, the Regiment was on the outskirts of Aurich, Germany, when it was announced that there was a ceasefire, and the Germans were surrendering. After about two weeks, the Regiment was sent back to Utrecht, in the Netherlands to prepare for demobilization and repatriation. This was an enormous task that took until the end of 1945. In the summer of 1945,

a new unit, the 2nd 7th Canadian Reconnaissance Regiment was formed to be part of the Canadian Army Occupation Force in Germany. This unit was comprised of personnel from all armoured corps units who either volunteered to stay in theatre for an extra year or who were very low on the priority lists for repatriation to Canada. This new unit moved to Germany on 8 July 1945 and established its headquarters in Leer.

- According to the formation commander's conclusion (Major General Vokes) on the report submitted by a Board of Inquiry, on 28 May 1945:
 1. H-26577 Cpl LUDIG, F. was on duty when he died as a result of a self-inflicted wound.
 2. As the evidence indicates a condition of mental unbalance, It is considered that he cannot be held guilty of improper conduct as defined by Overseas RO 4633."