

## Russell George McCallum

### Personal Information

Russell George McCallum was born on September 17, 1921 in Toronto Ontario. His mother was Mildred Alma McCallum and his father was Frederick Lee McCallum. He lived with his mother and sister Norma Jean at 57 St. Anne's road in Toronto Ontario. Before enlisting in world war 2 he attended one year of college at St Andrews in Aurora Ontario as well as two years of Technical school in Toronto. Before the war he was employed at Hamilton Gear & Machine coy as a mechanist.

### Medical

In his medical examination Russell George McCallum was described as being five feet seven and one fourth inches tall and weighing one hundred fifteen and a half pounds. His complexion and development were both described as fair. His noticeable identifying features were a scare on his right patella and three moles on the left side of his neck. At some point before the war he had worn glasses then he was later prescribed glasses on August 3, 1943.

### Military Movements

Before enlisting in Toronto in 1941 Russell George McCallum was a drummer for the Queens Own Rifles However he was discharged because of his age. He enlisted in Toronto on January 13, 1941. His training was done in Toronto and Sussex New Brunswick. He was originally Taken on Strength by the Queens Own Rifles Wing Later he attached to the Queens Own rifles and Taken on Strength on March 4, 1941. He left Halifax Nova Scotia on July 19, 1941 and was Taken on Strength overseas July 20 1941. He arrived in Gouvoock, Scotland on July 29, 1941. Through out his service Russell George McCallum was AWL four times and was also documented as being improperly dressed while on parade with no field dressing. After going AWL for one day and eight hours between September 3 and forth 1943 he was put on trial October 2, 1843. He was found guilty and sentenced to forty five days of field punishment which was later over turned.

### Last Days

On May 30, 1944 all of the companies were briefed and prepared to move out. The next day A company and B company of the Queens Own Rifles were transferred from camp to the transit camp where they would stay until they crossed the channel. By June 2 C company was prepared to leave for the docks with around four hundred men. On June 6, 1944 at 7:20 word was given that H hour was being postponed by half an hour because the D D tanks and Avres where behind schedule and this point C company was a few hundred meters from the beach. At 8:05 the companies were given the word to move in and the A and B companies touched down ten minutes later. A company made it to the beach before heavy motor fire began. B company landed in front of a heavily defended area. According to a Toronto news paper Russell George McCallum was killed on a landing craft on June 6, 1944.

## Awards and Medals

During and after the war Russell George McCallum was given five medals. These medals were the 1939-45 star, France and Germany Star, Defense medal, war medal 1939-1945 and the C.V.S.M and clasp.

## Lest We Forget

When Russell George McCallum was Killed in action his possessions included a Ronson Lighter and a pen and pencil set. His possessions as well as 55 dollars and 86 cents and Medals were sent to his mother Mildred Alma McCallum On 57 St Annes Road in Toronto Ontario. Russell George McCallum is buried in Beny- Sur-Mer the grave is located in Plot one row B number 4.

Article from a Toronto newspaper.

Russell as a drummer in the Toronto Scottish