

In Memoriam

Private Leonard Ardiel

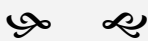
Leonard A. Ardiel

Private

Calgary Highlanders

Royal Canadian Infantry Corps

Age 35



Leonard Armitage Ardiel was born and raised in Okotoks, the eldest son of Dr. and Mrs. A.E. Ardiel. In 1928 he joined the staff of the Bank of Montreal in Okotoks.

Leonard enlisted with the Canadian Army in March 1943 and served overseas with 'C' Company of the Calgary Highlanders.

The Calgary Highlanders were sent to Normandy and tasked with liberating the City of Caen and seizing the Verrières Ridge in the later stages of the Battle of Normandy. The Highlanders faced fierce resistance by the Germans and their losses were heavy.

Telegrams sent to Leonard's family in Okotoks first listed him as wounded and then missing. It was later confirmed he was killed in action on July 19, 1944 near Caen. He was 35.

Leonard is buried at the Bretteville-Sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery at Calvados, France. Most of those buried there died during the later stages of the Battle of Normandy. He was survived by his wife Dorothy and infant son, Douglas.

