

# NORMAN GILMORE

Norman was born on October 29, 1919 in Medicine Hat Alberta his religion is United.

Norman was 21 going on 22 when he first went into the army. Norman went into the war October 7, 1941. Norm was in the war for 4 years 11 months and 10 days. Norm started as a dental assistant then went on to be, appointed private, then on January 5, 1942 he was acting corporal with pay, he then went on to be Corporal on January 8, 1942, from there he was Acting Sergeant, then on November 1, 1942 he was confirmed as Sergeant. When he was in the army he was placed in Aldershot England. Every 3-4 months he was moved along with others so that they wouldn't get bored of the same place and lose interest in what they were doing. He was then moved to Mine Head, Woking, he was in Southern England. His rank was Sergeant No. 6 Company CDC.

When Norm was in the army he had no family there with him, however he does recall a good friend of his named David Curry who was awarded the Victoria Cross for the bravery he showed when he was stranded in a tanker with no fuel for 3 days. He was then appointed to the Security in the Parliament Building. Norm got his 39/45 star as well as his Volunteer Service Medal for going overseas. Norman recalls that in Canada they had army bases to go to, but in England they were placed in big huge houses because if they had an army base there it would be too easy for the Germans to see and then they could bomb them by air. While Norm was in the war he was licensed on June 7, 1942 when he Qualified As Instruction for Rifle, Light machine gun, Bren gun, Thompson machine gun and Pistol anti tank gun. Norm got his driver's license for the army on July 13, 1944. Norm recalls his badges for the shoulder badges the first stripe was Lands corp, the 2nd stripe was Corporal, the 3rd stripe was Sergeant. Norm got the 1939 star for defence of Britain, the long badge with different colours was for servicing of France, Germany and overseas.

The dog tags were red and black, the red one goes to the army if anything ever happened to you and the black stays around your neck. The red badge with the blue stripe meant that Norm could be transferred anywhere in the army.

He also has a hat badge that sergeants wore. Norm went through a lot of training in England for rifle, how to take cover, handle firearms and also, like in France he was to never drink the water out of the wells in case there was poison in it, also to never go wandering through the fields if they had white or yellow plastic ribbons because they could have booby traps or land mines in them.

For Norm being a Sergeant meant that he had his own mess hall and living quarters, he said being a sergeant was one of the nicest ranks to have, and if he done something wrong the army would have to court marshal him, they couldn't just strip him of his rank. November 1945 Norm had a weekend pass to go to Brussels city square where the King's house was.