

Local woman visits cousin's grave in Holland with Dutch friend

Two women, forever connected by a fallen Canadian soldier, met for the first time over his gravesite earlier this year.

During the Second World War, Frank Lott, a soldier of the Canadian Highland Light Infantry, was stationed in Keteldal on the border of Germany and the Netherlands. He met his death during the last months of the war when on March 5, 1945 at the age of 26, his Jeep hit a landmine in Xanten, Germany.

Nearly 70 years later, Lott's cousin Normany Maynard and Bep Diesveld, who took care of his grave all these years, met for the first time by his gravesite in the Canadian cemetery in Groesbeek, the Netherlands.

Bep got to know Lott as a teenager where he was a regular visitor at her parents' home to get away from the ravages of war. Bep's parents adopted Lott's grave and all these decades Bep has placed flowers and removed weeds.

Norma remembers Lott as her sturdy blond cousin, who worked his father's farm in

Woodslee. She recalls how together they fed the cow and harvested the wheat, but then one day, he disappeared to join the army to fight for the freedom of the world.

Bep came in contact with Norma via the Red Cross and wrote about her experiences during the war including how during a bombardment she was seriously injured. Norma wrote back that she was so looking forward to visiting the grave of her dearest cousin.

"And so the moment arrived when hand in hand we looked for row G, number 13, the final resting place of Frank Lott," said Norma. "When we found it, we were silent, while tears welled up in our eyes as we placed a bouquet of flowers on his grave."

Norma spent the week with Bep in her home, despite the fact Bep spoke no English.

But that didn't matter as the bonds of friendship and remembrance had already been forged by a soldier, a long time ago.

—Story and photo courtesy of Norma Maynard



Norma Maynard (right) stands with Bep Diesveld over the grave of Maynard's cousin, Canadian soldier Frank Lott, who died in March 1945. Diesveld's family has taken care of his grave all these years.

Photo by Do Visser/De Gelderlander



The Royal Canadian Legion GEORGETOWN POPPY FUND

Dear Citizen:
November 1st to November 11th

The time of year when the Royal Canadian Legion asks that you wear a poppy in remembrance of those who gave their lives and those who were grievously injured during the two World Wars, the Korean War and the Peacekeeping Operations.

Your generosity in giving to the Poppy Campaign will enable the Legion to carry out the basic purpose and obligations of the Poppy Trust Fund which are:

- To give assistance to Canadian ex-service personnel and Canadian Merchant Navy personnel and their dependents, who are in need of such assistance.
- Ex-service personnel of Commonwealth and allied Countries who are resident in Canada.
- Purchasing medical equipment and appliances for community health facilities.
- Paying for medical research and training.
- Paying for bursaries for needy students.
- Ex-service personnel of Commonwealth or Allied countries and their dependents who are resident outside of Canada and are in need.

November 11th, 2013, Remembrance Park, 11:00 am

NOV. 9TH: GEORGETOWN - Form up at Legion 2:30 pm, Service Remembrance Park 3 pm SHARP.

NOV. 9TH: GLEN WILLIAMS - Form up at Glen Williams School 12:00 Noon, Service at Glen Williams Cenotaph 12:30 pm.

Please plan to attend this event and support the Poppy Campaign; your involvement is very much appreciated.

Marion Carney, Poppy Chairman

Income from 2013/14 Campaign

from all sources	\$48,642.30
Expenses:	
Campaign	\$14,435.86
Welfare & Donations ...	\$23,967.51
.....	\$ 10,238.93

Marion Carney
Poppy Chairman

John H. Harrison
President Br. 120

*Lest we
Forget*