

# REMEMBRANCE DAY - Nove



#### CAN'T LIVE THROUGH THE MEMORIES

"I was born and brought up on a small farm near Milton, Ontario. We, as a family, had a good life. My mother and my sister were involved in local drives for paper, fat, rags and things like that. They also spent many evenings knitting gloves, socks and scarves. I guess it was easier in those days with no television to distract you.

I remember when the war started to close in on us. My oldest brother was nearly 18 at that time. He had finished high school and was working on the family farm. He was good looking, young and strong, with a full life before him.

I remember the day when dad, him and I went to the Milton market. That's when he found out that all his friends were either being called up, or they couldn't wait to be called up for service and they were volunteering.

I used to think Steve was so young and foolish to have made up his mind to go and fight. But now when I think back, I wish I were two years older than him and not two years younger. Then it would have been me who went and not him.

Mom and Dad tried in vain to talk him out of it - 'Wait until you're 18' - I remember hearing those words over and over, but it was no use. His mind was made up.

After Steve left, things were not the same. Mom and Dad were trying to act the same but I could tell they were suffering. Although Steve was still in Canada in the Air Force, for the next ten months we only saw him four times while he was getting his training. I can remember how mother would break down and cry after Steve left for camp. I wonder now, if she had a premonition of things to come. The last time we saw him, he was home for ten days before they sent him to England.

We tried to cheer Mom up by saying he's only gone to England. Five weeks later, we had a letter from him. He was enjoying himself and happy to have met some of our relatives. This letter put us all on cloud nine. Then six weeks later, we received another letter saying Steve was missing in action. Those damn wars. I can't live through the memories let along another war."

#### GUIDE HIM TO S

"I remember the war years, bu back on those days because of a and sadness that it caused us.

In 1936, my husband was kill dent and the only close ones I son, Barry and my daughter, My in Milton, Ontario during the was sent overseas to fight. I use day and night, hoping the ligh him to safety. Till this day, I light year on November 11th.

To help with the war effort, m worked with the Red Cross ! pajamas and blankets. We would boxes and send them overseas Madelyn was only 15 at the tip would write short notes to the se

I can recall my son's last we he left. I had never seen him s for words during that last w before he left, he came into my arms around me, and told me going to be okay. Then tears cheeks like maybe he knew diffe

The next day, I made his fa left it on the kitchen table. I jus out for a while. When I can be untouched. And I saw a glimps up the road and out of sight. The saw of Barry."

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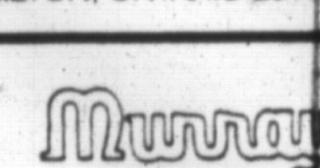
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