



Town of Ajax Street Dedication



Street Name: **Frankcom Street**

Name of Veteran: Ernest A.C. Frankcom -Dec. 13, 1939

Rank: Steward

Ship Served: HMS Ajax

Date of Service on Ship: 1939

Year of Visit/Dedication: September 2001

Veteran or Family Visit: n/a

Veteran of the Battle of the River Plate: Yes Died at Battle: Yes

Ernest A. C. Frankcom died while serving onboard HMS Ajax at the Battle of the River Plate. He married Kathleen Partridge in 1937, two years before his death. The following is a letter from his widow;

28, BARTON RD. DOVER
March 11, 1961

To The Secretary for The Admiralty,
Dear Sir:

I have received and read your letter and am filled with a sense of great pride and joy. The knowledge that the memory of my late husband together with that of his comrades is to be remembered in perpetuity, makes me feel very proud and overwhelmed with gratitude toward the Mayor and Council of Ajax Ontario, Canada. No gesture could more fittingly portray the sincerity and warm-heartedness of any people, and I would so much like them to know how very humble and proud your letter has made me feel.

Faithfully yours, KATHLEEN EDWARDS (Mrs.)

Editor's Note: Mrs. Edwards was the wife of Steward Ernest A.C. Frankcom who lost his life in action. Frankcom Street is the street on which Slough Plaza is located with its Industrial Exhibition to be opened this week. Says O'Brien in his letter: "Your residents of Frankcom Road will be pleased to know that Ernie (Paunch) Frankcom, an officers' steward, was a real toff, one of the quietest fellows you could ever wish to meet. He was killed whilst sending up the shells to the Royal Marine X gun turret."



Source: The Guardian, Souvenir Edition, June 21, 1961.

A tree was planted by council under the Millennium Tree Planting Project in front of Dunlop Canada Inc. It was the first tree planted in the industrial area to honour a veteran.