

**AIRBORNE SOCIAL CLUB  
NORTHTOWN PO, BOX 71034  
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EDMONTON, ALBERTA T5E 6J8  
MARCH 2019**



## **EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

I received this article a while back and thought even though it may not resonate with today's soldier and his memories it very well could be for many of us who have sit back and just remembered, when.

### **REMEMBERING WHEN... I WAS A SOLDIER ONCE**

I liked the idea that as the commercial said; we did more by 0700 than most people did all day. I loved as range safety officer getting shots down range by 0800. I loved the brutality of route marches because they set us apart from my civilian friends, as most of them could never have hacked the pace. I liked standing on an United Nations observation post just before dawn in a faraway land, realizing that I and other soldiers in my unit were doing something very special by representing Canada and the Canadian people, undergoing physical and mental strains that many could not or would not face to keep our country safe and ready. I loved climbing up cargo nets in full battle order and repelling down cliffs. I loved running the assault course. I liked the early morning runs and the late night polishing before a parade.

I liked the smell of the quartermaster stores, an odd mixture of gun oil, canvas preservative, leather, hemp rope and cigarette smoke. I liked the racks of rifles and sub machine guns and I loved the gun sheds and tank hangers where the vehicles and weapons of war gleamed dully and exuded strength and capability and the power to "get er done" if need be.

I loved the name of the equipment when I started, Sherman, Fabric National, Sten and Bren because they spoke to me of the proud days when our Fathers used them successfully in WW2. Our M36 Grenade was the same as our grandfathers used in WW1 for

God's sake! I also loved when the 105mm and the M109 gave way to them M777 and the guns could shoot accurately over 30k.

I loved it when the old lady "the duce and a half" was finally replaced by the modern MLVW. The Centurion tank gave way to the Leopard and within weeks, our tankers showed NATO they were the best.

I liked our soldiers, from all parts of the land, from cities of Upper Canada, small towns of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. They came from the mountains and from the prairies from all walks-of-life. I trusted and depended on them as they trusted and depended on me for professional competence, for comradeship, for strength and courage.

In a word, we were "soldiers", then, and forever. I liked the surge in my heart when word was passed that a unit was deploying, and I loved the infectious thrill of riding homeward in convoy waving at the cars we passed and at pedestrians who I was sure looked at us with envy as we rolled through their villages on our way back to Base. I loved waving from the back of a truck at the kids in cars that would trail us for a while before finally passing.

The work was hard and dangerous; the going rough at times; and the parting from family painful, but the companionship of robust army laughter, the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of the military was ever-present. I once enjoyed the best two hours sleep in my life laying on the ground at a rest halt while doing a patrol. The weather was overcast but warm and a slight drizzle did not deter my snoring, which could be heard four men down the line. Another 4 or 5 hours would have been nice, but there was work needed to be done.

I liked the fierce and dangerous activity of the Infantry Rifle Coy as we began an advance to contact. I liked doing the recce for a harbour where I had to hide up to 40 pieces of wheeled and tracked equipment from the enemy. I hated having to run ahead of our vehicles in complete darkness and trying to be quiet as the drivers and co-drivers tried to back vehicles and trailers into a black hole as quickly as possible so others in line could pass and find me and also be properly positioned and put away. One could hear cursing and unmeant bitching as crews stumbled in the dark to erect cam nets and digging in for protection from an enemy attack, we cut and poked branches holding up the nets to break the vehicle outline so as not to be recognized. The lucky ones had a relatively small vehicle, others a two and a half or a 5 ton to cover that even in day light would take an hour or more. At night, it was dangerous, demanding and extremely hard work. In the rain or freezing snow, this necessary chore was brutal.

Watching my fellow soldiers as they took down the cam nets, loaded fuel, ammo and rations for yet another long day. Feeling truly exhausted and knowing it was going to get a lot worse before it got better, actually added value to the experience. We were soldiers and this is what it was like.

I loved the name and the history of my Regiments:

“The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) Of Canada”

“The Royal Canadian Regiment”

“The Royal Canadian Electrical Mechanical Engineers”

“The Royal Canadian Engineers”

“The Royal 22e Régiment”

I loved the parades, the colours on parade and the guidon presentation, the march past, the roll past, the advance in review order and the sound of my hand slapping the stock of my rifle during the Present Arms. I could feel the National Anthem inside me while the band played it. Some liked “The Queen” or “O Canada”. I loved “The Maple Leaf Forever”.

I loved walking through our position in complete darkness checking the welfare of my

men and NCO's and ensuring them that they were not alone, as we stood in our trench at first light, on stand to. I liked the weight of my steel helmet on my head and the embrace of my webbing; it made you feel like superman though in your heart you surely knew you were not.

I loved the weight of my rifle or pistol and knowing I could outshoot many of my men. It was an ongoing competition during range practice to outdo your friends as well as your superiors. There was pride in self and country and growing mastery of the soldier's trade.

An adolescent could find adulthood. A man could find fulfilment and old man finds great joy. I will never forget that I was once a soldier. There is no higher calling. I would do it again in a heartbeat. I liked the traditions of the Army and those who made them.

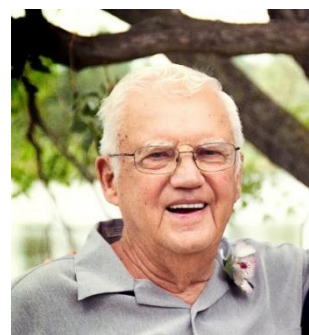
***I was a soldier once.....Author Unknown***

## LAST POST



This edition may have missed notices of airborne comrades who passed since last publication. We try to acknowledge all passing's. Regretfully though full details of are not always known or available for at time of publication; while sometimes

the passing has not been made known at all. If you know of a passing and think we may not be aware of it, feel free to send it to me with details or link so it can be included in future newsletters.



**ROBERT J. CRAIG,** passed away on November 28, 2018 and will be deeply missed by his family. Bob was born in New Carlisle, Quebec on January 23, 1930. He joined the militia in 1947 and in 1950, enlisted in the

regular army. He was a member of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and the Canadian Airborne Regiment during his military career. Bob served in Korea (including the Battle of Kapyong), Germany,

Africa, Great Britain, Cyprus (twice), and Quebec during the FLQ Crisis, as well as across Canada. Bob was a small arms instructor in several of his postings and completed over 500 parachute jumps. He was based out of Edmonton for most of his career. Bob retired in 1977 from the military and worked in the oil industry and security until retiring in the mid 1990's. He is survived by Nadia, his wife of over 65 years; his children, Carol, Roberta (David) and Robert (Teresa); his grandchildren, Jim (Kristina), Aaron (Chris), Matthew (Frankie), Corey, MacKenzie (Aidyn), and Ceara; and his great-grandchildren, Brooke, Kaiya and Esmé. A celebration of Robert's life was held January 21, 2019, Edmonton.



**WINSTON CHURCHILL HURRY**, passed away on December 14, 2018 at the age of 77. Beloved husband of Linda. Loving Dad to Shawna, Robert (Sabrina), Chad (Jodie). Grampie and Papa to grandchildren

Ashley, Michaela, Jaide, Kian, Jasmin, Kiera, Conner and great-grandson Rowan. Brother of Bob (Davida), George (Joan) and Nelson (Sandi). Predeceased by his parents Robert and Enid (Owen) Hurry and infant brother Douglas. No memorial service was requested.



**WAYNE LESLIE SABEAN**, Age 74 of Digby NS passed away December 24, 2018 in Digby General Hospital. Born in Digby, he was a son of the late Marjorie (Banks) and Thomas Sabean. Wayne joined

the Canadian Armed Forces in 1964. He served on Peace Keeping Missions to Cyprus and Germany. Wayne was a member of airborne, Sky Hawks Parachute Team and Instructor at the Parachute Training School. Wayne was a lifetime member of Royal Canadian Legion and a past President of Digby Legion. Upon Wayne's retirement from the forces he returned to his home town of Digby where he was employed in the fishing

industry. Wayne is survived by sister, Maxine (Dwight) Sabean Frankland, Bonne Bay Pond, NL; brother, Terry (Brenda) Sabean, Pennfield, NB; nieces, Catherine O'Rielly, Stephanie Frankland (Paul O'Keefe); nephews, Scott (Renay) Frankland, Craig (Vicki) Sabean; great-nieces, Abigail, Mikayla, Carmaleah, Emma, Jada, Alexis; great-nephews, Alexander, Nathan, Colin. Besides his parents, Wayne was predeceased by his wife, Carol (Raymond) Sabean. A memorial service was held January 17, 2019.



**GERRY TOPHAM**, passed away January 4th 2019. Gerry was a husband, father, dog lover and proud veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces. He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Pauline, his two sons

Sean and James and his daughter Michelle. Gerry will be forever missed by his family and friends. A private family service was held in his memory.



**CHANCEY WILLIAM "CHAN" DUNCAN**, passed away February 15, 2019 at the age of 81. Chan will be lovingly remembered by his daughter, Cheryl (Shaun) Molloy of Whitecourt; son, Curtis (Colleen) of Whitecourt;

grandchildren, Ryan, Connor, Moira, Ashton, and Dane; brothers, Harmon (Lou) and Gordon; sisters, Keri (John) and Grace (Steve); brother-in-law, Jim; sister-in-law, Bridget; and many more dear relatives and friends. Predeceased by wife, Sonja; brothers, Charlie, Ernie, Raymond, and Bobby; and sister, Trudi.

Chan joined the Canadian Armed Forces in 1955, serving in the PPCLI, Canadian Airborne Regiment and the Queen's Own Rifles during his 23 year career. He married his love Sonja in 1962 and their travels took them to postings in Germany, Calgary, Edmonton and Victoria, BC. Upon retirement from the military, Chan and Sonja moved to Mayerthorpe and later Goose Lake while he



worked at Blue Ridge Lumber and Mostewich Lumber before starting their own cleaning business.

Chan served as the President of the Blue Ridge Legion #143 for many years and also started the Blue Ridge/Mayerthorpe Legion Boxing Club in 1980, holding the Alberta Bronze Gloves in Mayerthorpe in 1983. After Sonja's passing in 2003, Chan moved to Mayerthorpe where he enjoyed telling stories and visiting with his family and friends. A private service in his memory was held in Mayerthorpe.



**STUART PERCY NORTHROP**, passed away at Ridgewood Veterans Wing in Saint John on March 16, 2019 in the company of loved ones. He was 88 years old. Stu was born August 25, 1930 to Percy and Maude Beryl Northrup (nee

Seely) in a United Empire Loyalist farmhouse in Kingston built by his ancestor Benijah. He is survived by his wife Beatrice, stepdaughter Lynda and daughters Julie, Patricia, Sandra and Wendy (Dave), three half-sisters, eight grandchildren, three great grandchildren and a large extended family. Stuart was predeceased by his son Christopher (Grazyna) and his siblings Olive Hatt (Clyde), Laurence and Ruth Anne.

Stuart joined the NB Scottish in 1947 and volunteered for the Korean War in 1950 where he saw active combat with 2 RCR as a rifle platoon commander. Stu's army career opened up a world of adventure for him and created lifelong friendships with those with whom he served. He graduated from the Canadian Army Staff College and the US Ranger/Special Forces Course. He was Commander and Chief Instructor of the Airborne Centre and first Regimental Major of the Airborne Regiment. He was a founder and active member of the Armed Forces Parachute Team "The SKYHAWKS".

During his career, Stu had postings across Canada as well as to Germany, the U.S., Kashmir and Belgium.

Stuart was an accomplished athlete, a dedicated coach and an innovative trainer. A champion shot, he captained the Army Championship team, won numerous matches in Canada and competed internationally. He trained and captained the 2 RCR Commonwealth competition team, winning the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh's trophy an unprecedented three times. In retirement, Stu became a scratch golfer and had time to enjoy his lifelong love of family, bridge, animals, beautiful cars, the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Blue Jays. In the tradition of many Maritimers, he was a great storyteller.

A celebration of Stuart's life will be held at a later date. He will be laid to rest at Trinity Church Cemetery, Kingston, NB.

**DAVID HOWELL** passed away on 17 March 2019 in Kemptville, NS his hometown, after a long battle with several health issues. He was predeceased by his wife Doris and is survived by his sons Pete, Terry and Mike. Dave's military service included postings in Germany, Wainwright, CFSAL and the Airborne Regiment. It was while serving in an airborne capacity that Dave received the Medal of Bravery, the last member of the *Airborne Regiment* to receive this medal which was presented to him on 3 December 1999.

#### **MESSAGE FROM A FALLEN COMRADE**

My helmet, now a halo  
wings replace my chute,  
to fly amongst the eagles  
no Soldier would dispute.  
No aircraft is needed  
to take me to the sky,  
your prayers from below  
have lifted me so high.  
My spirit is my engine  
no need to refuel,  
no runway required  
a rainbow's edge will do.  
No need for maps or compasses,  
my angels are my guides,  
their strength and love have gifted me  
to soar the sky with pride.  
The heavens here are endless  
my soul's now free to roam,  
there is no need to cry my friends;  
***This Airborne Trooper found his home.***

***Unknown***

**JOHN BUTLER.** John was a veteran of 7(UK) Para battalion, 5 Para Brigade, 6 Airborne Division, and he parachuted into Normandy on 6 June, 1944. John was a long-time active member of BORNEWEST and DZVI. He was a very enthusiastic participant in many Airborne functions in Chilliwack, the Island and Siffleur Falls. He was 93 years old.

### **WAGNER POINT (PETAWAWA) MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

This year will mark the 51<sup>st</sup> year since seven paratroopers lost their lives in the Ottawa River during a parachute drop on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1968. A ceremony of remembrance will take place at the Memorial Cairn, Wegner Point, Garrison Petawawa, Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 1100 hrs.

### **WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

#### ***Reflect-Reconnect-Never Forget***



*MWO Riddell R.G. (Reg) 1RCR  
WO McDonnell M.P. (Mike) 1RCR  
Cpl Chiswell B.N. (Bruce) 1RCR  
Cpl Clements D.W. (Dennis) 2 Sigs Sqn  
Cpl Fields D.H. (Hugh) 2 Sigs Sqn  
Cpl Knight R.J.G. (Bob) 2 Sigs Sqn  
Cpl Misner P.J. (Jim) 2 Sigs Sqn*

A DVD of the 50<sup>th</sup> ceremony has been created and is available at a cost of \$15, includes shipping. Additional information can be

obtained from Dennis Stow at:  
[dennis\\_stow@hotmail.com](mailto:dennis_stow@hotmail.com) (613-732-4477)

### **75<sup>TH</sup> D-DAY ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY SIFFLEUR FALLS, ALBERTA**

Every year since 2000 on June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Airborne Social Club (Edmonton) has held a commemoration ceremony at the 1CANPARA Cairn (Airborne Monument) site at Siffleur Falls, Alberta. **GPS coordinates Latitude: 52.186920/Longitude: -116.476623.**

Each year, the club endeavours to have as many former 1CANPARA members in attendance as possible. Over the years, there has been as many as fourteen in attendance. However, with this being the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, age has taken its toll and this year there may only be one or two of these members attending. As such, we intend to make this event a memorable event for the last remaining members of 1CANPARA.

This ceremony over the years has had significant events that has taken place; one notable occasion was on June 6, 2007 with the unveiling of a plaque on a suspension bridge over the North Saskatchewan River. The bridge was dedicated to the memory of Corporal Fredrick G. Topham VC, a 1CANPARA paratrooper. Corporal Topham received the Victoria Cross for his heroic actions during Operation Varsity in March 1945. In addition to the unveiling, a major highlight was having the Topham Victoria Cross on display for the event.

This annual ceremony over the years has taken on an international flair with participation by airborne elements from the United States and Britain. June 2014 a mix of Canadian paratroopers from the 3PPCLI and American paratroopers of 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) exited a World War II Dakota airplane and parachuted into the icy waters of Abrams Lake, just west of the monument.

June 2015 saw another significant event when Private Walt (Spike) Romanow was, on behalf of the country of France presented with the French Legion of Honour for his actions during D-Day.



Other ceremonies over the years has been marked by the attendance of senior federal and provincial dignitaries as honoured guests; spouses, widows and family members of 1CANPARA paratroopers who laid wreaths in memory of those not able to be in attendance through age related conditions or those who had passed on.



With this year's ceremony being special, plans are in the making to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> D-Day Anniversary as a very special one. The ceremony will cover the period 5-7<sup>th</sup> June.

Unless operational or other military factors prevents it from happening, the climb up Normandy Peak, led by members of the 3PPCLI is planned for early June 5<sup>th</sup>. There should be at least four of our departed comrades taken on the climb the climb to establish their positions as guardians of the mountain with those who to be taken their position upon the mountain in previous years.

A meet and greet is scheduled for 1700 hrs on the 5<sup>th</sup> at the David Thompson Resort (DTR) Bubble Tent. June 6<sup>th</sup> ceremony, is scheduled to begin at 1330 hrs at the 1CANPARA Cairn. The post ceremony BBQ scheduled to start between 1730/1800 hrs at the Bubble Tent.

Departure breakfast on the 7<sup>th</sup> is by individual departure plans.

Once again the DTR will act as the host accommodation. Those wishing to take advantage of the hotel, meal and activities can make their reservations by contacting Sherry at 1-888-810-2103. If she is not on the line

when you call, she will get back to you within 48 hrs.

LGen (Ret'd) Kent Foster has agreed to attend and take the dais salute this year. MGen (Ret'd) Bob Stewart and Col (Ret'd) Dick Cowling have advised their intentions on attending. It is nice to see we will have a few past senior Airborne Commanders attending. Members of the 1CANPARA Bn Cadet Corps from Ontario will be touring the area during this time and plan to join us for the ceremony on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Participation by Edmonton area Cadet Corps, the British Army Trails End Camp and the Alberta Park Services has yet to be confirmed. It is hoped their participation and presence on parade will happen as it has over the past years.

For my part, I can't stress the importance, and significance, of this year's ceremony. For us, it is the 19<sup>th</sup> year we have been involved in either attending, or planning, this ceremony. Sadly, it could be the last coordinated and organized one we do, at least I do! Let us not disappoint those who are crossing the "Great Divide" this time. Let's make a commitment to be there on the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The ceremony dates never changes, and we owe it to members past and present to make the effort to attend this year. If you need more information at any time, do not hesitate to call/contact me.

Bill Dickson  
MC/Coord  
75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Day Ceremony, Siffleur

### **LEADER OF CANADIAN PARATROOPERS**

Extract - THE KINGSTON WHIG STANDARD  
Dated 9 September 1942  
Major Proctor, Leader of Canadian Paratroopers,  
Killed When Transport Plane Shears Parachute

Fort Benning, Ga, Sept 9 - (AP) - Brig-Gen. George P Howell, Commandant of the United States Army Parachute School, announced today that Maj. Hilton D Proctor, 31, leader of a contingent of Canadian paratroopers, was killed in a jump here Monday when a transport plane sheared into his parachute.

The Army said announcement of the accident was withheld pending clearance with Canadian authorities. Maj. Proctor, a native of Ottawa, plummeted to earth after a plane following his own fouled his newly-opened chute, and Army investigators said it was probable he was killed instantly by contact with the plane. The body was to be flown to his home in Ottawa today, accompanied by a representative of the Canadian Army and a representative of Fort Benning.

Maj. Proctor led a group of 27 officers and men, Canada's first paratroopers, here five weeks ago for training at this school. The paratroopers were the "guiding lights" for the first Canadian Parachute Battalion to be trained at Shilo, Man.

The Canadians will be graduated from the school Saturday.

Maj. R. F. Routh, 28, of Montreal, was second in command of the Canadians here. He and Maj. Proctor, and the other four officers received exactly the same training as the noncommissioned men who were chosen for volunteers for the new force.

Besides Maj. Proctor and Maj. Routh the other officers were: Lieut. C. F. Hyndman of Charlottetown, attached to the group temporarily from the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps to discuss medical problems with American medical officers of the United States parachute troops; Capt H. A. Fauquier, brother of the R.C.A.F.'s famed Wing Cmdr. Johnny Fauquier; Lieut. T. W. Brier of St Johns, Que.; and Lieut. H. K. Robinson and Lieut. Marcel Cote of Montreal.

### **Was at Barriefield**

OTTAWA, Sept. 9 - (CP) - A brief official statement from National Defence Headquarters today confirmed that Maj. Hilton David Proctor, the man to whom Canada looked to develop the most modern branch of its Army—the paratroops—was killed at Fort Benning, Ga., while making a jump. Announcement of Maj. Proctor's death when a transport plane sheared into his parachute, was made today by Brig.-Gen. George P. Howell, commandant of the United States parachute school at Fort Benning.

The official statement, issued here a few minutes later, said merely; "He was accidentally killed while jumping from an airplane during the training of his battalion. An inquiry into the circumstances surrounding this accident is being held."

A month ago Maj. Proctor led 27 officers and men to the United States for training at the Fort Benning school. Thirty-one years old, he was

looked upon as the ideal type for a paratroop leader—with initiative, physical strength, and cool calculation. From Fort Benning he would have returned to Canada to become a leader in the training of the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Parachute Battalion to be formed at Shilo, Man. And it was assumed here he would have been commander of this unit with rank of lieutenant-colonel.

At Fort Benning Maj. Proctor received the same training as that given to his men, all of whom were volunteers for the course. With his death, command of the unit falls temporarily to Maj. R. F. Routh, 28, of Montreal, second-in-command of the Canadians at Fort Benning.

The choice of Maj. Proctor was made by the Canadian general staff after high officers had examined the ability and aptitude of various volunteers for special service. Formerly an engineer with the Bell Telephone Company, Maj. Proctor was an expert marksman, a member of the Canadian Bisley team of 1935. He joined the Active Army in August, 1940, was assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Divisional Signals and went to Barriefield, later becoming an instructor at the officers' training centre at Brockville.

By May of this year he was a major and returned to Barriefield with the 6<sup>th</sup> Divisional Signals until his appointment as commander-elect of the paratroopers.

The man who was to lead Canada's advance troops in training and in action was born under a thatched roof at Comber, Ireland, six miles from Belfast, and came to Canada as a child. He went to school in Toronto and later attended Lisgar Collegiate in Ottawa. After leaving high school he earned his Bachelor of Science degree at St. Patrick's College.

A slim smiling man, Maj. Proctor received a hearty welcome from his United States comrades on arrival at Fort Benning, and shortly afterwards the Canadian commander had a ride on the controlled jumping tower, sliding to the ground from a height of 250 feet.

Within three weeks, Maj. Proctor and his men had graduated to making "free" jumps and their training was practically completed when the fatal accident occurred.

### **Unwitting Tribute**

American officers welcoming the Canadians commented on their fine appearance. This was an unwitting tribute to Maj. Proctor who had chosen each man personally. He had talked with scores of men who wished to become paratroopers.

"They're really anxious to go," said Maj. Proctor, when he reached Fort Benning. "I'd almost like to predict that every one of them will qualify." The young officer had ambitions beyond commanding a training group or school. "These men will go wherever it appears they are best fitted," he said—and he meant himself as well.

After Fort Benning, Maj. Proctor was to have taken his men to Shilo where, in co-operation with the Royal Canadian Air Force, further training would be undertaken including the dropping of equipment along with the men.

Maj. Proctor's training as a signals officer would have fitted him for active service in a role which paratroopers have shown their value—in the destruction of enemy communications behind their lines. Among the later training given the paratroops will be instruction in the use of explosives while operating in enemy territory.

His widow, the former Dorothy Hutton of Ottawa, and three- year- old son are resident in Ottawa.

Maj. Proctor was well known in Montreal where he helped transfer the city's telephone system from the old manual exchange to the new dial system. He enlisted in Montreal.

Maj. Proctor, who was a company commander in 6<sup>th</sup> Divisional Signals, stationed at the Barriefield camp, soon left his unit to attend the special course. The local military authorities were advised of the death last evening.

#### **Acknowledgements:**

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#### **References:**

Lieutenant-Colonel Bernd Horn  
Co-author: Tip of the Spear, An Intimate Account of 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Parachute Battalion, 1941-1945 A Pictorial History

Brian Nolan  
Author: AIRBORNE, The Heroic Story of the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Parachute Battalion in the Second World War

#### **Transcribed:**

Major (Ret'd) Robert J Janik MMM CD

## **PETE SPENCER AWARD 2018**

The Pete Spencer Award, is awarded annually to a member or members of the club in recognition of their dedication and outstanding support to the club and airborne brotherhood during the year.



*2018 Reunion Chairman Art Brochu receives the Pete Spencer Award for 2018 from Club President Mike Frail, on behalf of committee members.*

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

In accordance with Club By-Laws once, a membership reaches end-December for that year paid-up period that membership will have until end-June the following year to either renew or have their name placed on an inactive listing, i.e. end-December 2018/June 2019. Membership is open to all paratroopers, former or current. Membership dues is established at \$10 yearly.

As the club secretary and membership representative, I endeavour to keep our membership contact information up-to-date. Our normal method of contact is through email, less mailing of cards. If you have moved or had a postal or email address changed since last contact please let me know so I can make corrections. In addition, if you know of any member who may have moved or are not receiving the newsletter contact me at [dr.paris@shaw.ca](mailto:dr.paris@shaw.ca)

## **HOSPITAL MEMBER**

The club hospital member, on behalf of the club provides notification of members hospitalized or at home recouping. If you know of anyone who may not be doing well,



please let Ben know so he can arrange to visit and deliver hospital comforts. Ben's contact info: [ben.murdock@shaw.ca](mailto:ben.murdock@shaw.ca)

## **HUMOUR**

A woman and her ever-nagging husband went on vacation in Jerusalem. While they were there the husband passed away. The undertaker told the wife, "you can have him buried here in the holy land for \$150 or we can have him shipped back home for \$5,000.

The wife thought about it and told the undertaker she would have him sent back home for burial. The undertaker asked her, "why would you spend \$5,000 to have him shipped home when you could have a beautiful burial here, and it would only cost \$150?"

The wife replied, "long ago, a man died here, was buried here, and three days later, he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance!"

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Homer is passing by Billy Bob's hay barn one day when through a gap in the door, he sees Billy Bob doing a slow and sensual striptease in front of an old John Deere tractor. Buttocks clenched, he performs a slow pirouette, and gently slides off first the right strap of his overalls, followed by the left. He then hunches his shoulders forward and in a classic striptease move, lets his overalls fall down to his hips, revealing a torn and frayed plaid shirt.

Then, grabbing both sides of his shirt, he rips it apart to reveal his stained T-shirt. With a final flourish, he tears the T-shirt from his body, and hurls his baseball cap onto a pile of hay.

Having seen enough, Homer rushes in and says, "What in the world are ya doing, Billy Bob?"

"Good grief, Homer, ya scared the crap out of me," says an obviously embarrassed Billy Bob, "me 'n the wife been havin' trouble lately in the bedroom d'partment, and the therapist suggested I do something sexy to a tractor."

## **KIT SHOP**

Surplus reunion kit and other related airborne items; prints, books and items are available through Bill Dickson. A sample of items have been listed below. Bill may be reached via email: [abn339@shaw.ca](mailto:abn339@shaw.ca)

### **REGULAR KIT LIST SALE PRICE**

AB Anniversary 12 oz Coffee Mugs - \$10.00  
AB Vests CAR Badge - \$45.00  
AB Ball Caps (3 versions) - \$15.00  
AB T-Shirts (Large Wing) - \$15.00  
AB Touques - \$20.00  
AB Ties - \$25.00  
AB Blazer Crest - \$22.00  
AB License Plate - \$20.00  
Cdn AB Jumper Key Chains - \$5.00  
AB Hoodies - \$55.00  
AB Desk Flags - \$10.00  
Paratroopers - The Cdn Story DVD - \$10.00  
Cdn Para Wings-Metal Red/White - \$10/\$12.00  
Cdn Para Wings-Cloth Red/White - \$5/\$8./00  
AB Lapel Pins - Various - \$5/\$10.00  
AB Decals - Various - \$3/\$5.00  
AB Western Buckles-Variou Design - \$30/\$35/\$40.00

### **PRINTS**

Op Varsity - \$80.00  
Airborne Sunrise - \$100.00  
Clan That Never Sleeps - \$85/\$110.00  
Pegasus - \$55.00  
Night Raiders of Anzio - \$65.00

"Eight Minutes to Midnight" by Robert Bailey.

15 X Remarques - \$450.00 (with at least 6 D-Day AB Vet signatures)

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