

EDWARD J. NEIL



*Fallen soldier of World War II
Graduate of Westmount High*

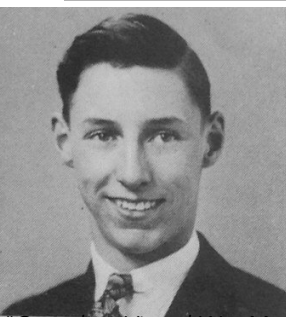
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Edward John Neil, nicknamed "Ted", was born circa 1920. His parents, John and Wilhemina Neil, were from Montreal, Quebec. Neil grew up in Montreal and attended Westmount High School, where he graduated in the class of 1937. He states in his graduation biography that he considers "telling spicy stories" as a pastime and was involved in First Aid for four years. (1934-37). It seems he was a humorous gentleman.

When World War II began, Edward J. Neil was enlisted in the army. He fought in Division I of the Black Watch of Canada, also known as the Royal Highland Regiment. He was ranked as a lieutenant in his unit. He and his division fought in almost every major action of the British in WWII (Palestine, Dunkirk, Normandy, Chindits, etc.), including 30 battle actions through France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, and the Dieppe Raid. The Black Watch was prominent in defeating Hitler and was vanguard in the Allies' Normandy victory. Although they were victorious, mistakes in command/training and inexperience against the powerful enemy resulted in many injuries and fatalities. 18,444 Canadians suffered casualties from this battle, 5,021 never seeing their homes again. Unfortunately, Edward John Neil, aged 24, was one of the valiant men whose lives were claimed in the Battle of Normandy on July 28, 1944. He was buried in the Bény-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery near the Reviers village in France.

EDWARD NEIL: BLACK WATCH
DIED OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION
IN FRANCE. JULY 1944



"I got a million of 'em."
EDWARD J. NEILL (Ted)
Fav. Exp.—"Stop me if you've heard this one."
Pet Avers.—Boswell and Johnson.
Pastime—Telling spicy stories.
Ambition—Front row at the French Casino.
Activities—First Aid '34, '35, '36, '37.

"They were not all saints, they were not all heroes. But there were saints and heroes among them, as they fought in the dust and heat of Normandy in that summer of 1944. Remember them and remember their achievements."



"Canadian Virtual War Memorial." Veterans Affairs Canada. Government of Canada, n.d. Web. 10 Nov. 2014.

"The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada - 1st & 2nd Battalions." The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada - 1st & 2nd Battalions. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Nov. 2014.

"Lieut Edward John Neill (- 1944) - Find A Grave Memorial." Lieut Edward John Neill (- 1944) - Find A Grave Memorial. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Nov. 2014.