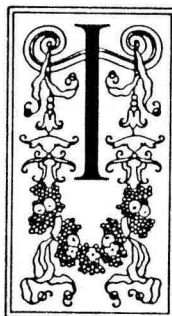


Foreword



IN THIS TRIBUTE TO VALOUR the citizens of the Township of Dunwich and Town of Dutton desire to pay homage to those of our sons and daughters who in the years 1939 to 1945 fought for the freedom and the rights of humanity. The fifteen who paid for victory with their lives have bequeathed to us an immortal legacy — the inspiration to keep alive and glowing the principles which they defended, the cause for which they died.

Throughout those six long years of conflict, when oftentimes it seemed that nothing could successfully halt the vast war machine of a desperate and ruthless enemy, we turned in faith to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and besought Him to grant strength and guidance to our leaders and our forces that victory might attend them and that the world might once more learn the truth that might alone does not make right, and that in the world of nations as in the world of men, there is a power even greater than physical force.

Our prayers were answered, and at long last victory came. Miraculously the Battle of Britain was won; so, too, the Battle of the Atlantic; then followed El Alamein; Sicily; the sanguinary struggle up from the toe of Italy; then the battle of Normandy with the heroic days before Caen and Falaise, and, miraculously it seemed, the Rhine was crossed, and the arch enemies of all that we counted best in the world, were overcome.

May we not with pardonable pride point to the heroic part our Canadian boys played in achieving that victory and bringing peace once again to a weary world.

These are the thoughts that have prompted the citizens of Dunwich and Dutton to bring together in book form the photographs and brief biographical sketches of the men and women from this community who answered the call of King and Country, and risked even life itself, that freedom and righteousness should not perish from the earth. May the record of their service and sacrifice, with our humble acknowledgment of Him who was our shield and our shelter when the earth did tremble, provide inspiration and endurance for all men of goodwill in the work and service which the dearly bought peace makes paramount in our lives and in the lives of those who shall come after us.

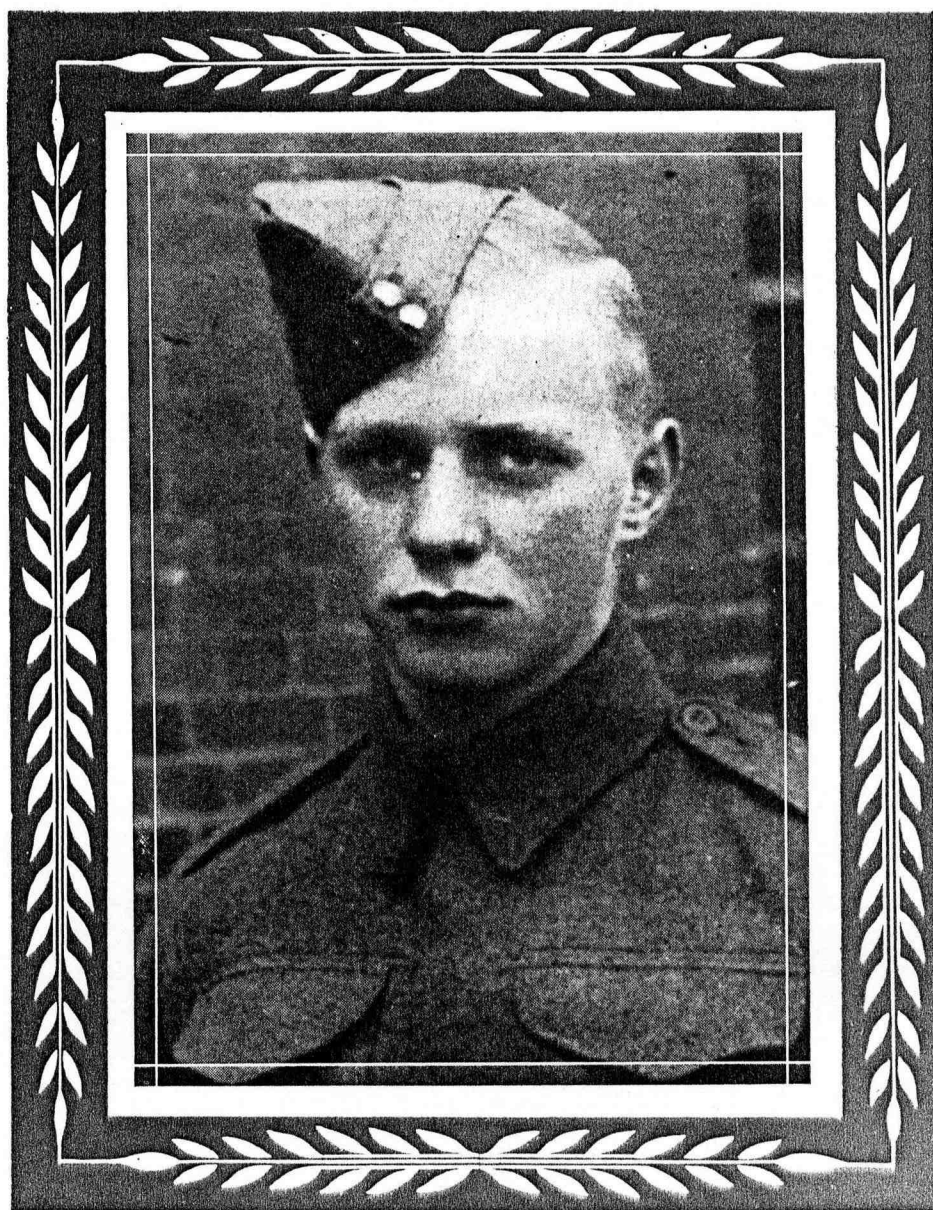


GEORGE HENRY BACKUS

GEORGE HENRY BACKUS

Trooper — No. A104765

TROOPER Backus was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Backus, and was born in Dunwich Township, south of Wallacetown, in 1907. He enlisted in October, 1942, at No. 1 District Depot, and trained at Listowel and Camp Borden. Early in 1943 he was transferred to Nova Scotia, and in the Fall of that year was stationed in the United Kingdom. He went to France in July, 1944, and later to Belgium and Holland. While serving with the 25th Armoured Delivery Regiment he was accidentally drowned on November 19th, 1944, in the Quid Williams Canal, Holland. Burial took place in a temporary grave at Os, Holland.

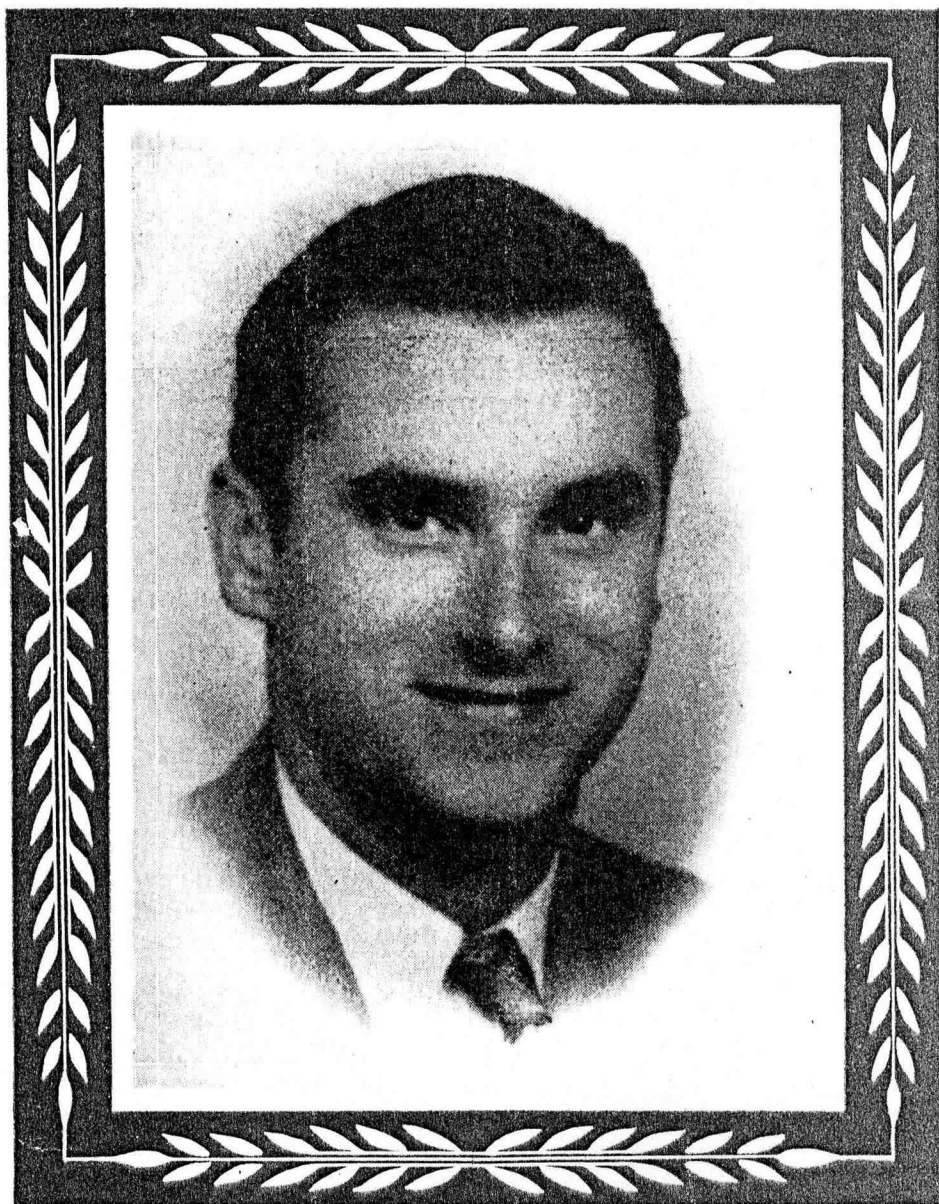


JOHN CALLAHAN

JOHN CALLAHAN

Gunner — No. B8085

GUNNER Callahan, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Callahan, was born and educated in Wallacetown. He enlisted in April, 1941, with the 4th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, R. C. A., trained in Canada, and went overseas (United Kingdom) the following November. While on duty as a dispatch rider he suffered accidental injuries which resulted in his death on July 25th, 1942. Gunner Callahan was buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Woking, Surrey, England, Grave 5, Row J. Plot 32.



KENNETH DONALD DUNCANSON



KENNETH DONALD DUNCANSON

Private — No. A38028

P RIVATE Duncanson was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan. Duncanson. Born in Wallacetown on June 7th, 1915, he later resided in Dutton, where he received his education. He enlisted for active service on August 24th, 1942, and served with Headquarters Staff in Canada at Listowel and Ipperwash. After one year in Canada he trained for ten months in England. He was attached to the Algonquin Regiment and for six weeks participated in fighting at Caen, Falaise Gap and the Leopold Canal. On October 2nd, 1944, Pte. Duncanson was reported missing in action. On June 1st, 1945, definite news was received that he had been killed in action on September 14th, 1944, at the battle of the Leopold Canal. Private Duncanson is survived by his widow, the former Mabel Lillian Haggerty.

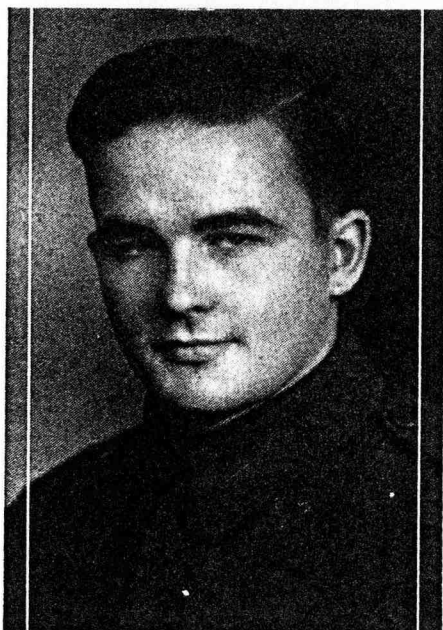


ALLAN K. ADLINGTON

ALLAN K. ADLINGTON

LEADING SEAMAN — V8786

SON of Mr. and Mrs. William Adlington, enlisted in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve June 4th, 1941. After training ashore in Canada he was drafted aboard the minesweeper H. M. C. S. "Fundy." Following a few months service aboard this ship, he went overseas in February, 1942, on loan to the Royal Navy. Here he was attached to a "Combined Operations" unit—the First Canadian Landing Craft Flotilla (later known as the 30th L. C. M. Flotilla). With this unit he served in the Mediterranean and Red Seas, chiefly as a Coxswain aboard landing craft in the North African and Sicilian landings. On July 11th, 1943, he was wounded just off the beachhead at Sicily, then he was hospitalized in North Africa and Scotland for a total of nine months. After returning to Canada, Allan was discharged on July 12th, 1945.

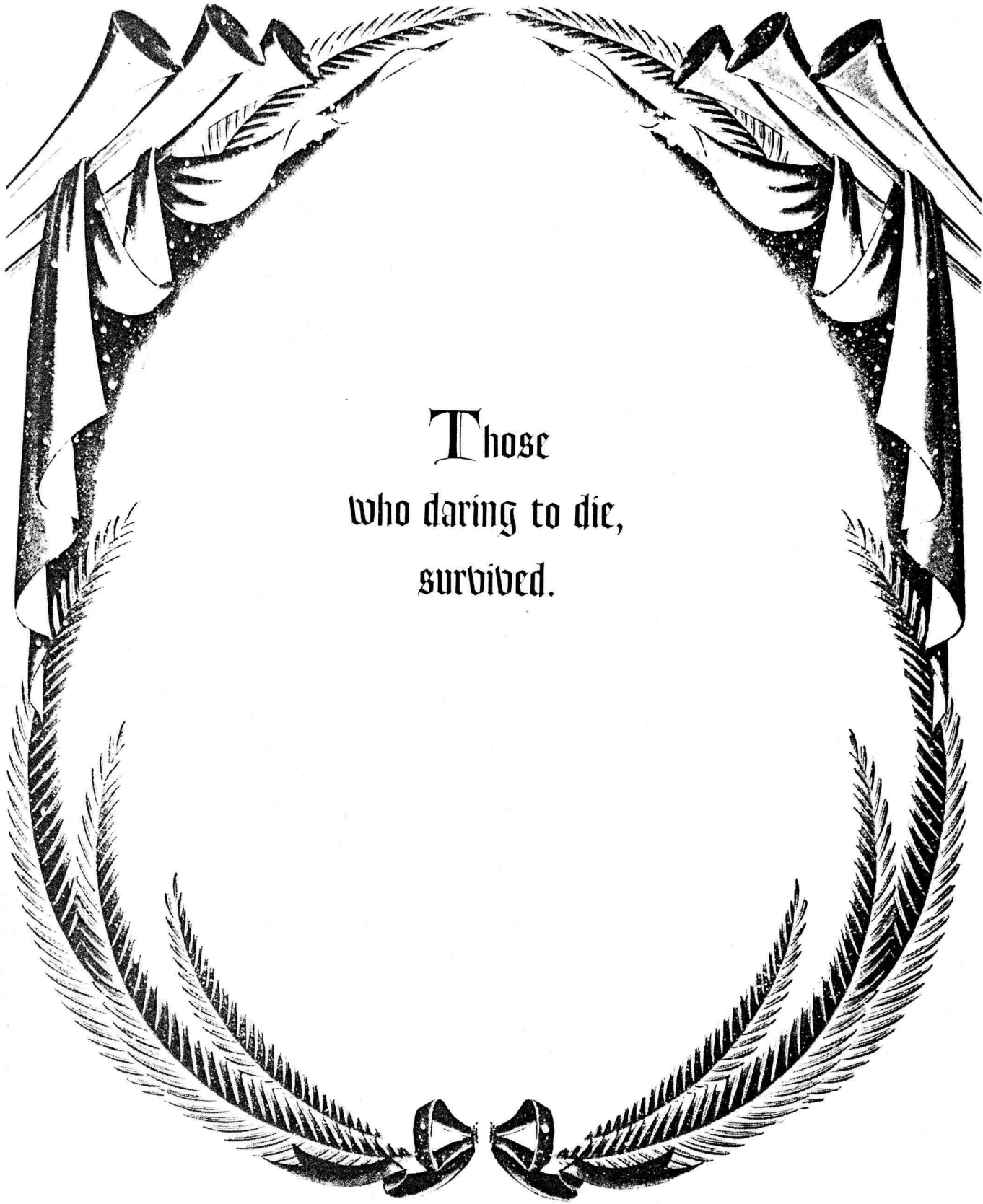


DAVID ADLINGTON

DAVID L. ADLINGTON

L/Sgt. — A3191

SON of Mr. and Mrs. Adlington, of Wallacetown, enlisted for active service on October 3rd, 1939, in the Royal Canadian Regiment. In December of 1939 he went to the United Kingdom, and to France in June, 1940, and four days later was evacuated back to England. In July, 1943, he was sent with the R. C. R. to Sicily and in the Mediterranean the ship was torpedoed and he was picked up by a Royal Navy ship and taken to Algiers. After re-equipping, he landed in Sicily and later in Italy. During the battle of Ortona he was evacuated to the R. C. A. S. C. In December, 1944, he was returned to Canada on rotation leave. He was discharged in July, 1945.



Those
who daring to die,
survived.