



The Raven & The Rock

The Glens' Association Newsletter—September 2020

A GLEN CELEBRATES HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

On September 10th, Glen Joe Sullivan will be 100 years old. Joe was an early member of the 1st Battalion, Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders serving in the Signals Platoon. He came from the village of Douro, Ontario. After the war, he took up the trade of carpenter followed by a career in real estate in Peterborough, Ontario. There will be a drive by parade in Peterborough to mark his birthday.

The first reunion of the 1st Battalion took place in Peterborough in 1946. From then on, Joe had a commitment to the 1st Battalion Association. He attended his last reunion at the Cornwall Armoury in 2014 with members of the 1st Battalion and other veterans of the Second World War. Joe's daughter Eloise Sullivan has provided us with the following information about her father. What an example for those who follow!



“As a proud Veteran and Ex-National Chair of the Glens Veterans Association, Joe has worked hard to have the memory of his Regiment and fallen comrades-in-arms remembered.

In 1994, Joe spearheaded a campaign for the remembrance of some of his fallen comrades in WWII. While fighting in the Netherlands during the war, 11 soldiers from his regiment lost their lives in the area of Zutphen. Fifty-two years later, after getting word of a housing development planned for the same area of Zutphen, with the help of Rev. Henck Dykman (a Dutch-Canadian Citizen) and the late Lt. Col. Tom Stanley, he started an 8 year process to have 11 streets in the proposed subdivision named after the 11 fallen soldiers. By 2005, he had succeeded in the naming of the 10 streets after the soldiers, plus an additional street named for the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders Regiment, as well as a walking bridge named after Marshall Lawes, another fallen soldier. Through this act, he was able to get in touch with the surviving kin of some of the 11 soldiers, and helped provide closure, as well as creating a legacy of their memory and their bravery that will live on.

In 2003, with the rededication of the Peterborough Memorial Arena, a committee looked at changing the name of the arena. Joe sat as Co-Chair of a committee of Veterans, who campaigned to have the arena name remain The Peterborough Memorial Centre, as it was originally named that in the 1950s in honour of veterans.

In 2004, he set himself a new goal: to have a tree planted in front of the Peterborough War Memorial, with a plaque dedicating the tree to The Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Highlanders Regiment. In 2010, he achieved this goal.

Each year, up-to and including 2014, Joseph would lay the SD&G Regimental Wreath at the Cenotaph as part of the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Peterborough War Memorial. He has also helped the relatives of a few veterans gain closure by freely relaying his own memories of serving with them in WWII. In some ways, they have only known their parent or grandparent through the eyes of Joe.

In 2015, Joe was honoured by the Government of France by bestowing on him the Rank of Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour, for Recognition of his Professional Involvement in the Liberation of France.

In 2018, Joe received the Governor General's Sovereign's medal for Volunteers for his work to have veterans recognized for their contributions.”

Happy Birthday, Joe!



1945—VE Day—Emden, Germany



2005—Zutphen (Leesten), The Netherlands



2010—Peterborough, Ontario

Up The Glens!

Glens' Association Website—<http://glensassociation.ca>