

VETERAN OF THE WEEK 24

(3-9 October, 2022)

L800113 Gunner Norman William Carroll

2nd Regiment

Royal Canadian Horse Artillery

Korean War

L800113 Gunner Norman William Carroll of Pennant, Saskatchewan was born on the 27th of February, 1930 in Cabri, Saskatchewan to Clive and Carrie Carroll. He was trucker by trade before enlisting in the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery on the 23rd of August, 1950 in Regina, Saskatchewan. Tragically Gunner Carroll would not make it overseas as he was killed in the Canoe River Accident on the 21st of November, 1950, just three months after having enlisted. He was twenty years old. He is buried in the Pennant Cemetery, located near his home town of Pennant, Saskatchewan.

The Canoe River Accident was a head on train crash between an eastbound passenger train and a westbound Canadian military train. The military train was carrying troops that were en route from Camp (now CFB) Shilo, Manitoba to Ft. Lewis, Washington, U.S.A, where they would embark for service overseas in Korea (aka "Operation Sawhorse"). The crash occurred just east of Canoe River, British Columbia. While none of the passengers on board the passenger train were killed, seventeen Canadian soldiers lost their lives in the accident. Also killed in the accident were the locomotive crews. In total 21 people were killed and 61 were injured in the accident. The cause of the incident was determined to be that words had been omitted from the order that had been sent to the troop train. The order was to pull onto a siding to allow the passenger train to pass by. Due to the omission of the words, the troop train proceeded instead of pulling off, resulting in the head on collision.

Gunner Carroll is commemorated on page ten of the Korean War Book of Remembrance, the Korean War Wall of Remembrance, the Canoe River Memorial, the Korean War Cairn, and the Canoe River Monument. In addition to these places of commemoration, Gunner Carroll has a geo-memorial dedicated to his memory called Carroll Lake (59.15 N/ 102.6333W) which is located north of Kingston Lake, Saskatchewan. This week we honour the service and sacrifice of L800113 Gunner Norman William Carroll of Pennant, Saskatchewan. Thank You for your service, Gunner Carroll.

Lest We Forget