

Veteran of the Week 7 (September 12th -18th, 2021)

Lieutenant Frank Havergal Currie Bell

14th Canadian Hussars

Canadian Armoured Corps

Second World War (WW2)

(1912-1941-05-05)



Lt. Frank Havergal Currie Bell of Swift Current, Saskatchewan was born in 1912 to Isabella and John Allen Bell. During the Second World War he enlisted with the 14th Canadian Hussars in Swift Current. Unfortunately, Lt. Bell's service was short as he was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident while on training maneuvers near Farnham, Quebec on the 5th of May 1941. Lt. Bell and another officer Lt. F. Noble (age 26 from Regina, Saskatchewan) were riding on a motorcycle when it crashed into the side of a train at the CPR crossing that afternoon (about 4:35pm). The officers must have failed to see the train before it was too late – the train was backing up slowly through the roadway (train was doing 3 miles/hour).

The motorcycle crashed dead center on the brakeman's train car as it passed through the crossing. During the crash both men were hurled out of their machine. Lt. Bell was seriously injured in the crash, having sustained a fractured skull, Lt. Noble was also injured but not seriously. They were rushed to Ross Memorial Pavilion, Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, Quebec. Lt. Bell was transferred to the Montreal Neurological Hospital due to his head injury, where it ultimately proved fatal as he died there a few hours later.

He was 29 years old. Lieutenant Frank Havergal Currie Bell was survived by his mother Isabella Bell and his wife Evelyn Bell. He was buried on the 9th of May 1941 in Block 39, Lot 2, south half of Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. He also is commemorated on page 23 of the Canadian Second World War Remembrance Book and in the book "Compiled Information on the 8th Recce (14th Canadian Hussars) that is on display in the 209th Room at the Swift Current Legion lounge. This week we honour the service and sacrifice of Lieutenant Frank Havergal Currie Bell of Swift Current, Saskatchewan. Lest We Forget

