

Whitewater Region's WWII Casualties

Leading Aircraftman Beattie Elwood CAMPBELL

L.A.C. Beattie Elwood Campbell, son of **William Fraser Campbell** and **Fannie Bilson**, was born on 21 Oct 1916 in Forester's Falls, Renfrew, Ontario, Canada. Both of Beattie's parents were born in Ross Township. They were farmers there and had a family of at least 13 children; 5 girls: Elizabeth Harvey, Jessie (infant death), Ida Disley, Etta Manges, and Gertrude Bennett; and 8 boys: Dan, William, Archibald (child death) Cecil, Clifford, Earl and Chester Campbell. Beattie was the second youngest. Four of his brothers, Daniel, William, Cecil and Clifford remained in Renfrew County.¹

Beattie Campbell enlisted on April 15, 1942 at North Bay, Ontario. On his Attestation Papers he listed his education endeavors as attending S.S.#4, Ross Township from 1923-1930; and Renfrew Collegiate Institute from 1930-1935 for Sr. Matriculation. He worked for his father farming from 1935-1940; and for International Nickel Company, Copper Cliff, Ontario as fillman, machineman. He stated that he engaged in softball, basketball and rugby occasionally as well as hunting. He was described as 5' 8" tall, weighing 152 lbs. He had a ruddy complexion, blue eyes and light brown hair.²



Image 1: L.A.C. Beattie Campbell³

FLIER, CRASH VICTIM HAS A SISTER HERE

Leading Aircraftman Beattie A. Campbell, 25, killed when a training plane crashed near Arnprior, Tuesday, is a brother of Mrs. William Harvey, Winchester St., Toronto.

Son of Mrs. William Campbell, of Forester Falls, Renfrew county, and the late Mr. Campbell, he enlisted in the spring of 1942 and trained at Lachine, Toronto and Fingal before being posted to the air observers' school at St. John, Que. All crew members of the plane which crashed were killed.

Leading Aircraftman Campbell was born in Renfrew county and worked as a surveyor in Northern Ontario. He is survived by his mother, four sisters and six brothers. The funeral will take place at Cobden.

Beattie attended the Basic Training Centre, North Bay, Ontario from Mar 12, 1942-April 15, 1942, and left to join RCAF. Initially, he was posted to Lachine, Quebec and later served with the No. 9 Air Observer School, St. Johns, Quebec. His rank was Leading Aircraftman and his position was Navigator R.151136.²

On routine navigation flight aboard an Avro Anson 6691, the 4 member crew were killed when the plane crashed at the crest of a hill in the township of McNab near Arnprior, Ontario on the night of Feb 8, 1943. The aircraft was a complete wreck. The accident occurred at 2110 hours about 7 miles SE of Renfrew, Ontario. Weather was light snow and low clouds. LAC Campbell sustained a compound depressed fracture of the right parietal and posterior occipital bones as well as other multiple comminuted fractures. His death would have been immediate. He was 26 years old.²

LAC Beattie Elwood Campbell was buried in Cobden Union Cemetery, Cobden, Ontario.^{1,2,3,4,5}

Image 2: Death Notice⁶

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In addition to his cemetery stone⁷, LAC Campbell is commemorated on the WWII Honor Roll, Queen's Line United Church⁸; the Pembroke War Memorial⁹; and the Renfrew Collegiate Institute Honor Roll¹⁰. He was entitled to the War Medal 1939-45 and the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal⁴. He is also remembered on multiple websites dedicated to the RCAF^{11,12,13,14}.



Image 3: LAC Campbell gravestone⁷



KILLED NEAR ARNPRIOR
Leading Aircraftman Beattie A. Campbell, 26, killed in a training plane crash near Arnprior, was a brother of Mrs. William Harvey, Winchester St. Campbell was attached to the air observers' school at St. Johns, Que.

Image 4: "Killed Near Arnprior"¹⁵

There is a letter in his Beattie Campbell's service record from Miss Dorothy McLaughlin of Forester's Falls, Ontario. It stated that she was engaged to Beattie Campbell and they were to be married in March 1943.²

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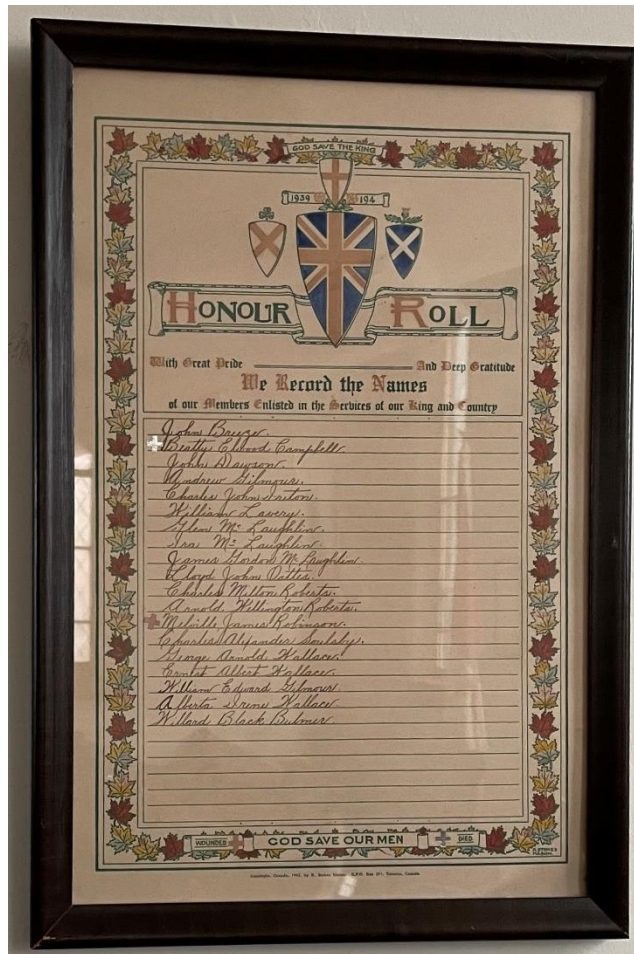


Image 5: Queen's Line United Church WWII Honor Roll



Image 6: Pembroke War Memorial (Air Force Panel)

Additional information and photographs would be appreciated.

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