

## WW II Enlisted Men & Women Casualties of Whitewater Region

### Flight Sergeant Pilot Irwin James Eady

**Irwin James Eady**, son of **Harvey Thomas Eady** and **Mary Elizabeth 'Minnie' Bennett**, was born on 1 Apr 1921 in Forester's Falls, Ontario. He was the oldest of 5 children – Irwin, Archie, George, Beth & Velma.<sup>1</sup> He had attended Cadet Corp for Signals in Pembroke and listed the sports - long distance track, pole vaulting, hockey, swimming and softball as his interests. Following school years, Irwin was engaged in construction and operating diesel equipment.<sup>2</sup> Irwin's father and two uncles served in WWI. Unfortunately, his uncle Sgt. Calvin Eady did not make it home.<sup>1</sup>

Irwin enlisted on Nov 4, 1940 at Toronto into #1 Manning Depot, Royal Canadian Air Force. He wanted to become a pilot. His medical assessment indicated he was 5' 10" tall, 140 lbs. with brown eyes and light brown hair.



*Image 1: Flight Sergeant Irwin Eady<sup>1</sup>*

Irwin Eady was stationed or did training in Moncton, London, Camp Borden, Montreal, Toronto and Halifax. Flt-Sgt Eady became a member of the 402 Squadron, RCAF and was stationed at RAF Hurn, Dorset, England. Fifteen months after he enlisted, Flt-Sgt Eady was killed when his plane, a Hurricane Merlin Bomber, crashed during non-operations, 400 yds from RAF Hurn. He died of multiple injuries on 23 Feb 1942 in Hurn, Dorset, England aged 20 years, 11 months<sup>2</sup> and was buried in Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey, England.<sup>3,4</sup> The Memorial Cross was sent to his mother.<sup>2</sup>



*Image 2 & 3: Flight Sergeant Irwin Eady<sup>6</sup>*

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### Sgt. Pilot Irwin Eady Gave All for Country

Sergeant Pilot Irwin James Eady, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Eady of Forester's Falls, Ont., who was killed last Monday while serving with the R.C.A.F., had been serving in England since last October.

Enlisting on August 9, 1940, he spent about four months at Moncton, N.B., and later was transferred to Toronto Initial Training School. He finished his training at Camp Borden, after attending the London, Ont., school, and received his wings on August 20, last year.

Born at Forester's Falls, he received his education there and at Pembroke. After leaving school he was employed with his father, who is a contractor, until enlisting in the R.C.A.F. His father and two uncles served overseas in the First Great War, and one uncle, Sergeant Calvin Eady, was killed overseas.

Surviving, besides his parents are two brothers, Archie and George; two sisters, Beth and Velma; his grandmother, Mrs. George Bennett and a number of uncles, aunts and cousins.

Image 4: Newspaper clipping -Obituary<sup>7</sup>

### MEMORIAL AT FORESTER'S FALLS

#### Impressive Tribute Paid to Sgt. Pilot Irwin Eady at Service

The United church at Forester's Falls was filled to capacity Monday morning when a memorial service was held in honor of Sgt. Pilot Irwin James Eady, R.C.A.F., elder son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Eady, who was killed in action. The service was held at 9.30 a.m. to coincide with the hour of the funeral in England.

The service was conducted by Rev. E. J. Robertson, minister of the church, assisted by Rev. Mr. Lindsay of the Standard church and Rev. R. E. Spencer of Cobden United church. As a tribute to the memory of Sgt. Eady, the flag on the village school was flown at half mast and the large attendance at the service to the regard in which he was held and the sympathy felt for the family. Six close friends of Sgt. Eady, Alex. Jamieson, Owen Black, Irwin Valliant, Clarence Wilson and Beatty Armstrong, all of Forester's Falls, and Harry O'Brien, Pembroke, attended in the capacity of honorary pall bearers.

Sgt. Eady, who was in his 21st year, was the first Forester's Falls boy to receive his wings. He enlisted in November, 1940, and graduated as a pilot in August, 1941, proceeding overseas shortly afterwards. He was popular among his many acquaintances and news of his death cast a gloom throughout the community.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Eady; two brothers, Archie and George; two sisters, Beth and Velma, and his grandmother, Mrs. George Bennett, as well as a number of uncles, aunts and cousins.

His father and two uncles, Russell and Calvin Eady, served in the last war, the latter paying the supreme sacrifice.

Image 5: Newspaper clipping – Memorial<sup>1</sup>



SERGEANT I. J. EADY  
PILOT  
ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE  
23.2.42



Flt-Sgt Eady's name is also commemorated on this parents' gravestone<sup>8</sup>, the WWII Honor Roll at Trinity United Church, Forester's Falls<sup>9</sup>, Pembroke Collegiate WWII Honor Roll<sup>10</sup>, and the Pembroke War Memorial<sup>11</sup>.



HONOR  
ROLL

1939 5082 1945

Dembroke Collegiate  
Institute

IN HONOURED MEMORY OF  
FORMER PUPILS OF THIS SCHOOL  
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES  
IN THE SECOND GREAT WAR

HARRY R. BAILEY	RODOLPH WILLIAMS
W. BENNETT BEATTY	PHILLIP MILLER
WALLACE J. BROWN	ROY PETERS
WILLIAM CAMPBELL	HARRY PATH
PATRICK J. CARMODY	JAMES REYNOLDS
WALTER DE CHAMBERS	JOHN REYNOLDS
ASHTON L. COHEN	GARRY ROWE
HAROLD COITMAN	DOUGLAS SAMMON
ROYDEN L. COITMAN	JOHN T. SAMMON
D. MURRAY DAVIS	ANDREW F. SPANES
LEONARD DEIGHTON	ROY F. SCHIMMENS
IRWIN J. EADY	ADRIAN SCHULTZ
LEONARD D. GRIESE	DELMON SEELY
W. JOHN HUNTER	CECIL B. SMITH
W. ARMY M. JONES	ADRIAN M. SPALING
GORDON D. JUNOP	STANLEY SWARTZ
THOMAS KROSSAT	ALICE F. SWITZER
JOHN A. LAWN	ROSS THOMPSON
CECIL D. LEITCH	NORMAN C. WEST
ROBERT MATTHEWS	BORDEN WORLEY
BERT WRIGHT	

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