

In memory of...

Thomas Reid Owens

By: Mya Shuklinsky



Rank: RCAF-Air Gunner

Awards Thomas Received...

**39-45 star, Air Crew Europe star,
Defense Medal, War and Canadian
Volunteer Service Medal.**

Before going to war...

Thomas Reid Owens was born on September 2, 1920. He lived in Montebello, Montreal with his brothers Hugh and Raymond and his parents William Theodore Owens and Florence Charlotte Reid. He first attended Roslyn School then moved to Westmount High. Once he finished high school, he went to Sir George William College from 1939-1940. He studied English, French, chemistry, social studies, history and economics. After college during the summer, he worked for the Canada Steamship liners. He loved to go skiing, play golf, tennis, and he had a stamp collection.

Start of his training...

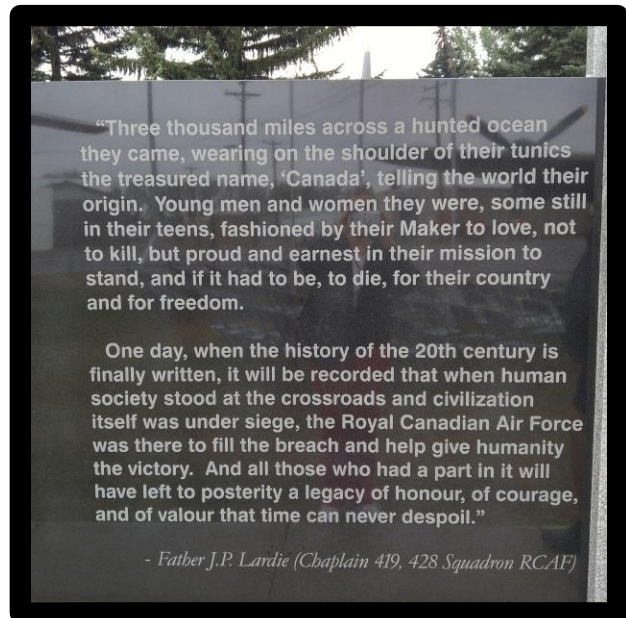
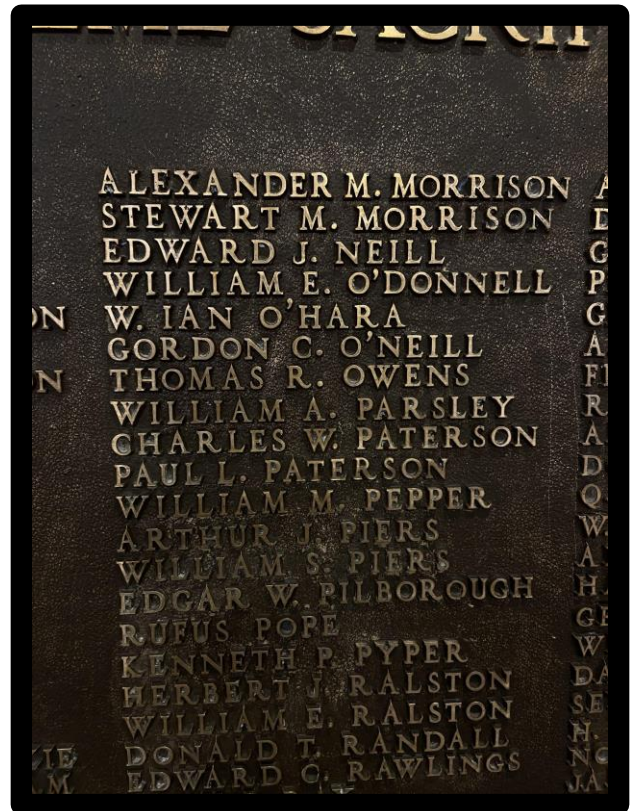
In January 1941, he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. He started training in June of 1942 at No1 Initial Training School in Toronto. He was given service No R79143. Later on, he moved to No1 Air Observer School, in Malton, Ontario. Lastly, he went to No6 Bombing & Gunnery School in Mountain View, Ontario where he finished his training. On November 25 he got promoted to being Sergeant! In July 1942, he was posted to 405 Squadron in the UK.

Cause of death...

Thomas was on an aircraft getting sent to bomb Duisberg. The bombing was a success but on their way back the engine of the air craft stopped working, which lead to it crashing, on New Street in Pocklington UK. All eight sergeants passed away that night including Thomas Reid Owens. He passed away July 24 1942, at 21 years old.



He is buried at Barmby-on-the-More churchyard in Yorkshire, United Kingdom. In honor of everything he has done, he is commemorated on the war memorial at Westmount High School.



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