



Acknowledging the Heroic

Herbert James Ralston

September 13th 1921 - July 13th 1942

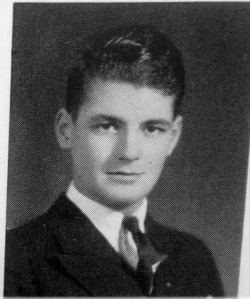
PRIOR TO THE WAR

HERBERT J. RALSTON

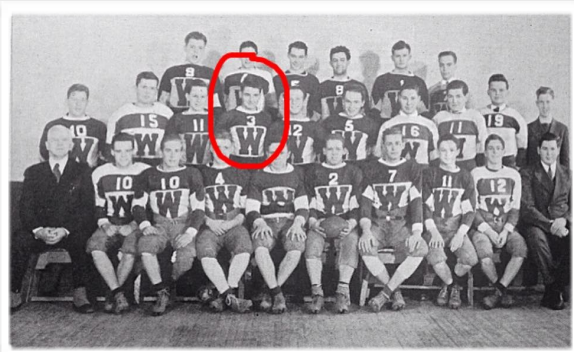
LOSS OF LIFE

"None but the brave deserves the fair."

HERBERT JAMES RALSTON Herb. Fax. Exp.—"Morning, boys!" Pet Avers.—French period, Pastime—Conversing with "Brother Morrison". Ambition—Hollywood. Activities—Senior Waterpolo '38, '39; Ski Team '39; Class Hockey (Champs) '39; Senior Football '39; Fourth Form Hi-Y Representative '40; Class Hockey (Champs) '40.



Herbert Ralston, son of William A. Ralston and Hazel Jerrine Ralston, graduated from Westmount High School in 1940.



WORLD WAR II

During World War II, Herbert Ralston served as a sergeant pilot in the unit of the Royal Canadian Air Force. RCAF pilots trained for the essential military pilot skills, course of actions, and they learnt what to do in difficult flight situations. The pilots spent the majority of their time in the air. They were flyers, fighters, and bombers in the war. Flying sergeants wouldn't just have the duty of flying the aircraft, but "would provide the leadership for the sergeant pilots in the air and on the ground" (Strategy Page, N.d.). They had the responsibility of protecting Canada's airspace.



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Herbert James Ralston enlisted in the war in May 1941 and was killed overseas on July 13th 1942 at the young age of 20. He served one year in the war prior to his death.



According to The Ottawa Journal issue of July 18th 1942, Ralston "died overseas as a result of injuries suffered on active service" (Newspapers.com, N.d.). He is buried in St. Mary's Churchyard, Oxford, England (more precisely; row G grave 5).



SGT. PILOT HERBERT JAMES RALSTON, R.C.A.F., was killed overseas on July 13, according to word reaching his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ralston, 4701 The Boulevard, Westmount. Sgt. Pilot Ralston was a graduate of Westmount High School, where he took an active interest in athletics. Before enlisting in May, 1941, he was employed with the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, in preparation for entry into his father's firm, G Ross Robertson & Sons. A funeral service for Sgt. Pilot Ralston is to be held in St. Mark's Church, Blackburton, Oxfordshire, England, today.

SUBSEQUENT TO THE WAR

After the war, a scholarship in McGill University called the "Ralston Scholarship" was created by Mrs. Hazel Jerrine Ralston and Mrs. Hazel Vivan Ralston. It was made to honour their sons (pilot/sergeant Herbert Ralston and lieutenant William Edward Ralston) and to keep them in memory. This scholarship was given to graduates of Westmount High School who had excellent grades and are also went into an undergraduate program. Both brothers graduated from Westmount High School and were killed in WWII.

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"Westmount High School." *Westmount High School*. N.p., n.d. Web. 10 Nov. 2014. <<http://www.adinex-service.ro/picteq/westmount-high-school>>.

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"Leadership: The Return of the Sergeant Pilots." *Leadership: The Return of the Sergeant Pilots*. N.p., n.d. Web. 29 Oct. 2014. <<http://www.strategypage.com/html/htlead/articles/20060206.aspx>>.

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