

RCL Brighton Branch 100

Comrade Wilf Pound



'A Brighton Boy'

'A PRESTIGIOUS JOURNEY OF SERVICE'



*Cameron
Highlanders
Regiment*

Who is Wilf Pound . . .



- **Long Time Resident of Brighton.**
- **D-day Landing Veteran.**
- **Brighton Post Master.**
- **Volunteered endless hours at many local charities and community events.**
- **Past –President of Legion Branch 100.**
- **Legion Member for over 75 Years.**

***Pte. W. J. Pound
in 1939***

Lindsay, ON

***Wilf joined
RCL Branch 100
in August 1939***



September 1941

► Wilf was stationed in Saint John, New Brunswick with the 1st Midland Regiment

► On Sept. 25th Wilf was on a train from Saint John to a Niagara Falls Camp.

► As the train sped through Brighton, Ontario, Wilf threw this plate out the train window.

► The plate was retrieved from the long grass and given to Wilf's family.
The family still retain this precious keepsake.





*Wilf in
August 2014
holding
his 73 year
old plate*

The 1941 *to* 1943 Period

- ▶ At the Niagara Falls Camp his regiment guarded the turbines and canals.
- ▶ Then Edmonton for Special Training.
- ▶ In 1942 he was in Prince Rupert for Guard duty at the dry-docks and outlying areas, observing the water for submarines.
- ▶ On May 13th, 1943 he departed for overseas.



Niagara on the Lake, Ontario

**1ST BATTALION,
MIDLAND REGIMENT**

January, 1942

1942

*Wilf in
Work cloths
in
Prince Rupert,
British Columbia*



Upon arrival in England in 1943
he became a

Cameron Highlander M.G.

as a vehicle driver.

*He was sent to Scotland to
waterproof and test the vehicles
in preparation for the
D-day Invasion.*



*Wilf as a
member
of the
Cameron
Highlanders
Regiment*



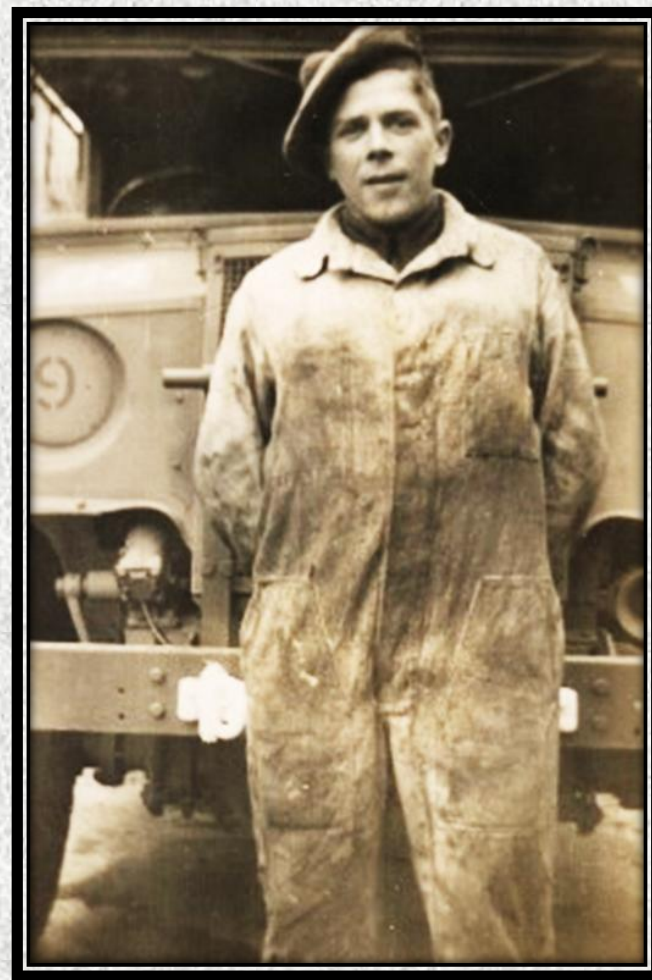


Wilf Pound's Cameron Highlander's Tartan

*Pte. Wilf Pound
- Water Truck -*



*Wilf wearing
his cow flop
in Balmoral*



JUNO BEACH

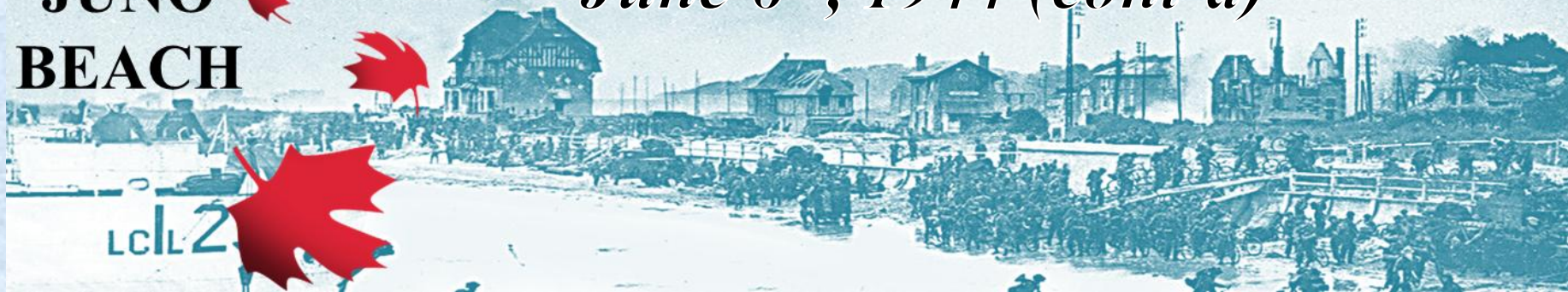
June 6th, 1944



- ▶ **D-day – “Operation Overlord”**
- ▶ **Wilf manned his 60-cwt truck and boarded a Landing Ship Transport (LST) towing a raft called a Rhino.**
- ▶ **Destination – Juno Beach.**
- ▶ *“The English Channel tossed around our Landing Ship Transport (LST) as if was only a dinghy”.*

JUNO BEACH

June 6th, 1944 (cont'd)



- ▶ Wilf was sea sick - *“It was the roughest trip of my young life.”*
- ▶ Wilf was one of 14,000 Canadian soldiers to storm the Normandy beaches.
- ▶ Canada was victorious, but at a cost of 340 lives and 575 injuries.



Canadian soldiers landing at Juno on the outskirts of Bernières, France



The Normandy Coast

- ▶ As the battle raged, Wilf drove ammunition and rations to the front lines.
- ▶ *“We would supply more than a day, but it would all depend on the movement of troops. sometimes we couldn’t keep up.”*
- ▶ July 1944, Wilf drove a captain to Caen, Normandy – it was the day before the Allied forces would take Caen.

Caen Normandy

- ▶ Wilf and a captain watched thousands of planes bomb Caen through the night.
- ▶ 25,000 tonnes of bombs were dropped on Caen that night.
- ▶ “It was just unreal” “Caen was lit up”
 “It was a complete inferno”
 “There wasn’t a city left”
 “A horrible and overwhelming event”
 “One of the biggest things of the war that Wilf had seen”

Wilf was offered a promotion
during his time with the
Canadian Forces.

He turned it down.

*“Had I taken it, I might not
be here today”*

JUNO BEACH



*Remember Today.
Remember Always.*



Post War

- ▶ **After World War II, Wilf returned to Brighton and became a barber.**
- ▶ **In 1952 he joined Canada Post and then in 1957 he became Post Master .
He stayed the Post Office for 26 years.**
- ▶ **He was an active and ongoing supporter of his community and many local charities.**
- ▶ **He has been a member of Branch 100 for 75 years.**

President RCL Branch 100

Wilf's fondest memory was when he was serving as president of Brighton Legion Branch 100 in 1953.

For the Legion, Wilf organized a welcome home party for George Griffiths a returning soldier from Korea.



*“The Legion was too small
so we held the event in the Town Hall
and over 300 people attended”*

65th Anniversary of D-day

June 6th, 2009, Premier Dalton McGuinty invited Wilf to Queen's Park for a ceremony to remember Canada's efforts on Juno Beach.

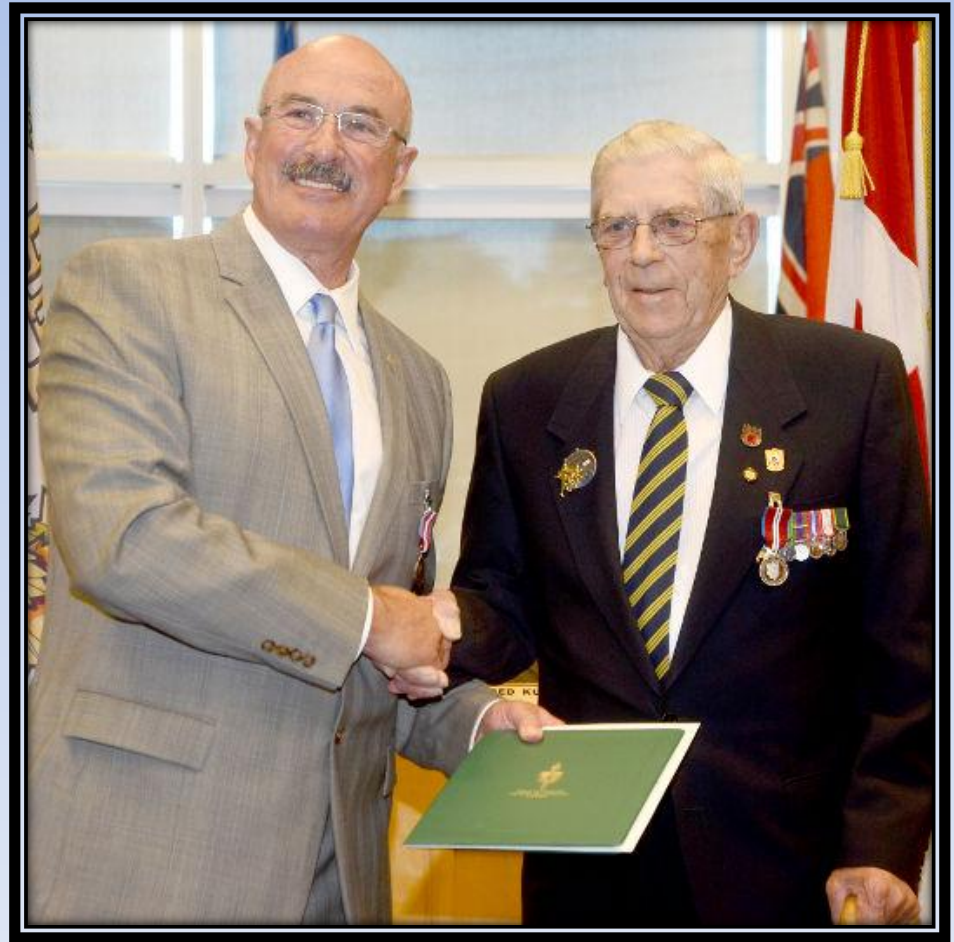
Wilf searched for fellow members of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa MG – his former regiment – but he was alone.

“They were all strangers to me”

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal

September 12th, 2012

*Wilf was honoured
to receive the
Queen's Diamond
Jubilee Medal
from
MP Rick Norlock*

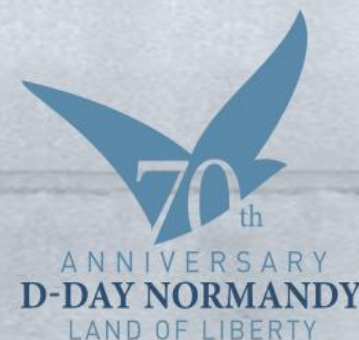


Memorial Park's Old Cenotaph

October 20th, 2012

*Wilf laid the final wreath to
grace the Old Cenotaph in
Brighton's Memorial Park
during the
Decommissioning Ceremony*





June 6, 2014

A Ceremony of Remembrance

at the

Canadian Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa

**Hosted by His Excellency the
Right Honourable David Johnson**

Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada



The Governor General of Canada

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston

Governor General of Canada commemorated the 70th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum

**Ceremony of Remembrance
on Friday, June 6, 2014, at 1 p.m. at the
Canada Aviation and Space Museum,
in Ottawa**

**Branch 100's Wilf Pound
was an invited guest**

**Private Wilfred John Pound C40621
1st Canadian Army, 3rd Battalion, 8th Brigade,
Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa MG,
(Midland Regiment of Northumberland County)**



*Invitation that Wilf received from
the Governor General* →

*Wilf at the Remembrance Service
in Ottawa on June 6, 2014*



D-DAY 70 ANNIVERSARY

Ceremony of Remembrance

in the presence of

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston,
Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

The Government of Canada, the Canada Aviation and Space Museum
and the Canadian War Museum
are pleased to invite you and a guest to commemorate
the 70th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy.

1 p.m., Friday, June 6, 2014

**Canada Aviation and Space Museum
11 Aviation Parkway, Ottawa, Ontario**

Dress

Military: 1A with medals

Veterans / Civilians: Business dress, with medals

RSVP by Monday, May 26, 2014

613-947-0714

cr-cs@vac-acc.gc.ca

Complimentary parking

Reception to follow the event



CANADA AVIATION
AND SPACE MUSEUM

CANADIAN
WAR MUSEUM



MUSÉE CANADIEN
DE LA GUERRE

Canada

Scenes from the June 6th, 2014 Ceremony Canada Aviation and Space Museum



A Group Photo of D-day Veterans



June 6, 2014

70th Anniversary of D-day Certificate



CANADA

*70th Anniversary
of D-Day and the
Battle of Normandy*

*70^e Anniversaire
du Jour J et de la
Bataille de Normandie*

On behalf of a grateful nation,
we present this certificate to

Au nom d'une nation reconnaissante,
nous remettons ce certificat à

Wilfred Pound

in recognition of your selfless
acts and sacrifice during D-Day
and the Battle of Normandy.

en remerciement de votre dévouement
et de vos sacrifices lors du jour J
et de la bataille de Normandie.

The Honourable L'honorable
Robert Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P. • Robert Nicholson, C.P., C.R., député
Minister of National Defence Ministre de la Défense nationale

The Right Honourable Le très honorable
Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P. • Stephen Harper, C.P., député
Prime Minister of Canada Premier ministre du Canada

The Honourable L'honorable
Julian Fantino, P.C., M.P. • Julian Fantino, C.P., député
Minister of Veterans Affairs Ministre des Anciens Combattants

Canada

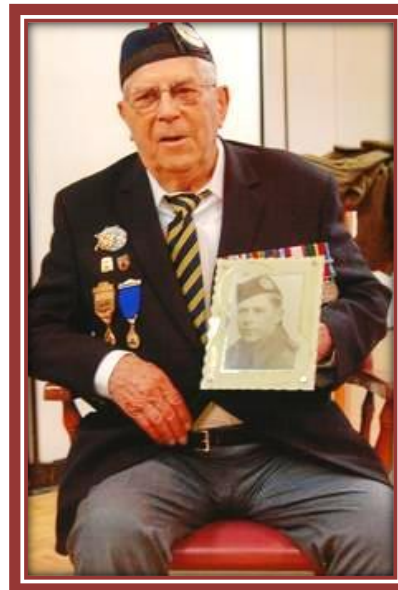
November 11th, 2014 at RCL Brighton Branch 100

Comrade Wilf Pound received the Prestigious Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour

*by order of the **President of the Republic of France** in recognition
of Wilf's professional involvement in the
Liberation of France in World War II . . . Wilf served with the
Cameron Highlanders of the Ottawa Regiment during WWII*



Lt. Col. Dave Kelly of the Cameron Highlanders
of Ottawa presented Wilf with the honour on
November 11th on behalf of the Government of France.



This photo of Wilf
holding his 1943
Camero Highlanders
photo was taken
On November 11, 2024

On December 25th, 2014,
Wilf turned 95.
He had been a member
of Branch 100 for
75 Years

Knight of the French National Order of the Legion of Honour

Presentation Ceremony – November 11th, 2014



Wilf Pound with his wife Melba, their four children and two members of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa



**Brighton Mayor
Mark Walas
and BR100
President
Brian Mackenzie
with
Melba and
Wilf Pound**



**Melba & Wilf with
Pam Sweeney, a Past
President of Legion
BR100 and the
current Assistant
Executive Director
of the RCL
Ontario Command.
Pam and the
Cameron Highlanders
had nominated Wilf for
the France award.**

Wilf . . . *A sincere 'Thank You' for your service*

