

Albin Carl Norlander
WWII Veteran

CANADA'S IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
PIER 21



Albin Carl Norlander
Rank: Private
Regiment: Loyal Edmonton
Regiment
Reg. # M57050

Personal Biography:

At nineteen years of age, Pte Norlander enlisted in the Armed Forces at Edmonton, Alberta on 20th March 1942.



Sometime in September of 1942 he was shipped overseas, we believe through Pier 21, for further training in the UK and Scotland.

On June 28th 1943, with his Loyal Edmonton Regiment he sailed from Scotland to join other allied invasion forces for the landing on Sicily on 10th July 1943. Fighting continued throughout the rest of 1943 culminating in the Battle for Ortona in December 1943.

After participating in the Italian campaign during all of 1944, along with his regiment he was transferred to Holland in the spring of 1945. Service in The UK followed after the war ended on May 8th 1945

until January 1946. Upon return to Canada he received his discharge on 21st February 1946 and later welcomed his English War Bride and baby son on their arrival to Edmonton in August 1946.

Personal Biography:

Patricia (Peggy) married Pte. Albin Norlander on 14th April 1945 after he returned with his Loyal Edmonton Regiment from campaigns in Italy and Europe. A son was born in February 1946.

Mother and baby arrived at Pier 21 on 12 August 1946 and were quickly transferred to the care of the Red Cross for a train journey to Edmonton, Alberta. Life began for my husband and I on a homestead, over the years our family increased with five other children, seven grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.

A baby daughter (one of a set of twins) died in 1960 at the age of five months. After a marriage lasting 54 plus years, Albin died on 02 October 1999.

Trip Memories:

1. My first glimpse from the cabin porthole on the Queen Mary, of the coloured wooden houses surrounding the Harbour in Halifax.
2. Purchasing my first pair of sheer nylons from a ship's steward for the princely sum of \$7.00, obviously black-market.
3. Leaving my handbag in the ship's theatre and having it returned minus every penny I had left.
4. Memories of the happy brides who were met and the heart rending sobs of the ones who were not.

