National Remembrance Day Ceremony

Ottawa, Canada • 11 November 2025

Legion

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning,
We will remember them.

Ils ne vieilliront pas comme nous
Qui leur avons survécu;
Ils ne connaîtront jamais
L'outrage ni le poids des années.
Quand viendra l'heure du
Crépuscule et celle de l'aurore,
Nous nous souviendrons d'eux.

COVER PAGE ARTWORK TAKEN FROM NANCY GE, LAUREL HEIGHTS SECONDARY SCHOOL, 05-530 WATERLOO BRANCH, BLACK AND WHITE POSTER SUBMISSION

ORDER OF SERVICE

O Canada

Last Post

First Gun

The Silence

Second Gun

Lament

Rouse

Act of Remembrance

21-Gun Salute

Prayers

Placing of wreaths

The People of Canada: Governor General of Canada

The Mothers of Canada: National Silver Cross Mother

The Government of Canada: Prime Minister of Canada

The Parliament of Canada: Speaker of the Senate

Veterans Affairs Canada: Minister of Veterans Affairs

The Canadian Armed Forces: Chief of the Defence Staff

The Youth of Canada

The Veterans of Canada: Dominion President,
The Royal Canadian Legion

Veterans Organizations and The Diplomatic Corps

Associations and Public

Benediction

God Save The King

Move to position at saluting base

March Off

Vice Regal party departs

Diplomatic corps and special guests depart

Organizations and individuals placing wreaths

Silver Cross Mother

Mrs. Nancy Payne

Nancy Payne was born in Peterborough, Ontario where she also grew up, the eldest of three sisters. Her father worked for a company in the technology industry and her mother worked as a stay-at-home mom. She attended local schools in the city including St. Anne Elementary School and St. Peter Secondary School.

As someone who enjoyed artistic endeavours and had worked in the fashion section of a department store, Nancy was later drawn into hairstyling. She worked as a hairdressing apprentice for three years before receiving her official license on the first try – a unique accomplishment at that time. She loved her work in that field, and throughout those work years, had lots of fun bowling and going dancing.

It was during that time that Nancy met her husband David who was also from Peterborough. He is now retired after having served thirty years, in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) Infantry. Nancy was introduced to him through a friend. At the time, David was stationed in Germany and the two started communicating by mail. When they eventually met in person, things just clicked, and they married not long after. A life of service led the family to several locations in Ontario including London, Petawawa, and Kingston, and took them overseas to Germany.

The couple had two sons: Chris, who was the eldest, followed by Randy. In later years, Nancy became a personal support worker at a care centre in Gananoque, ON and went on to a leadership role as Activity Director, retiring after twenty years in that profession.

Her husband David, her son Chris, and late son Randy all served with the Canadian Army. Nancy and her husband's families both have a long history of military service; including the service of several uncles dating to the First and Second World Wars. She says that reality did not hit home until later in life.

Today, Nancy lives with her husband in Lansdowne, ON a village community not far from Gananoque, and enjoys quilting, knitting, and reading. She spends as much time as possible with her friends and family, including four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

For close to nineteen years, in Randy's memory, Nancy has presented a special athletic award to a deserving student at the secondary school her son Randy attended in Gananoque, ON. The "Captain's Award" is given to a student who shows leadership, athletic skill, and has good marks. Nancy's son had loved hockey and was good at it, becoming a local star and captain of the Gananoque Islanders, a former Junior B hockey league team. She also speaks about him on that occasion. "I just want people to know about him, and I don't want people to forget him," she says.

As Canada's National Silver Cross Mother, Nancy feels it is a great honour to represent all mothers and families who have lost a loved one in the line of duty. She wants to keep Randy's and each fallen member's spirit alive. "Never forget what they did for us. They gave their lives, we can't forget that... we have what we have because of them."

Silver Cross Mother

Corporal Randy Payne

Corporal Randy Joseph Payne served with 1 Garrison Military Police Company, based in Wainwright, Alberta. Born on May 29, 1973, in Lahr Germany where his family was stationed at the time, he spent his teenaged years in Gananoque, Ontario. Later, he and his wife chose to raise their young family in that same town.

Randy was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 22, 2006, while serving as a member of the "Close Protection" team assigned to that mission. He died alongside three other soldiers, when a roadside bomb struck the military G-Wagon they were driving while returning to Kandahar Airfield from an operating base. His mother Nancy clearly recalls the devastating moment when she happened to be at home by herself and learned of her son's passing in the middle of the night.

"I couldn't believe it," she says. "I know when they join, you think it's possible that something could happen but you never think it would happen to your own," she shares.

As a young man, Randy wanted to be a policeman; and eventually joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in 2003. Described by his mother as someone who was fit, smart and picked things up quickly, he loved his military policing work. "That was his forte, he excelled at everything," she said. He first trained as a Military Police Officer in Alberta and is said by a good friend who served with him, to have swiftly mastered the role, performing his duties with "skill, enthusiasm and finesse." He began his military life assigned to the Royal Canadian Air Force Military Police and was later assigned to the Canadian Army.

"He enjoyed the excitement and thrill of it... it's what he wanted to do, his heart was really in it," his mother says. She characterizes his work ethic and overall attitude as having been "fair, firm, and friendly." She clearly remembers the day she happened to be visiting him at CFB Wainwright

in Alberta, when he got the call that he was heading to Afghanistan. He was raring to go. She was not looking forward to it, but she kept that feeling to herself. He was so excited that she was happy for him.

Her son had applied and successfully became a member of the Close Protection team for Canada's mission in Afghanistan in 2005, just two years after he had joined the CAF. The team's role was to safeguard VIPs such as people in authority who arrived in Afghanistan – individuals like former Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and former Chief of the Defence Staff, General (Ret'd) Rick Hillier. Randy was deployed in 2006, and part of the very first Close Protection team to go. While there, he was assigned to Regional Command South Commander, Brigadier General (Ret'd) David Fraser - who regularly called the team his "posse," as his parents recall.

Randy was the 15th of 158 Canadian soldiers to give their lives during Canada's mission in Afghanistan. He continues to be honoured in several ways including the inscription of his name on the Canadian Police & Peace Officers Memorial in Ottawa; on a bridge in Gananoque, ON, and on the town's local cenotaph. His former secondary school displays a plaque and picture at its entrance, in his honour. "To think that the school remembers him…I think it's wonderful that he's remembered that way," says his mother.

With his wife Jody, Randy had two young children at the time of his passing. His son Tristan is now a combat engineer in the CAF, and his daughter Jasmine is a personal support worker. Randy is described as having doted on his family and is remembered by those who knew him as a good friend with "a broad smile and ready laugh."

NATIONAL YOUTH
REMEMBRANCE CONTESTS

Self-expression and creativity through words and art allow young people of all ages to learn about the various facets of Remembrance and to explore and share their thoughts and feelings. Contestants are challenged to exercise their creativity and submit a poster or to write an essay or poem on Remembrance.

The first prize winners in the Senior Categories are invited to Ottawa, as guests of The Royal Canadian Legion, to represent Canada's youth by placing a wreath at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony.

LITERARY WINNERS

Preston Kane
Wembly, AB
Beaverlodge Regional High School

#02-121 Beaverlodge Branch
Poem – Senior First Place 2025

Brooklyn Stanford
Gull Lake, SK
Gull Lake School

#03-119 Gull Lake Branch
Essay – Senior First Place 2025

VIDEO WINNER

Micah Griffin
Olds, AB
Olds Koinonia Christian School

Alberta-NWT Command
Video – Senior First Place 2025

POSTER WINNERS

Nancy Ge
Waterloo, ON
Laurel Heights Secondary School

#05-530 Waterloo Branch
Black and White Poster – Senior First Place 2025

Yuanxi Liu
Burnaby, BC
Moscrop Secondary School

#01-083 South Burnaby Branch
Colour Poster – Senior First Place 2025

All Contest winners can be viewed here:
https://lnfcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/200809_Winners2025_web-FINAL.pdf

OUTSTANDING CADETS AND JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGER

The Legion supports the Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers movement in Canada to promote leadership, fitness, and the spirit of patriotism by sponsoring hundreds of cadet corps and scouting or guiding organizations across the country.

One outstanding Cadet and Junior Canadian Ranger is invited to Ottawa each year, as guests of The Royal Canadian Legion, to represented Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony.

WO1 Casey Garrett
Top Air Cadet
Moose Jaw, SK

MWO Geoffrey Reed
Top Army Cadet
Regina, SK

CPO1 Julie Hammond
Top Sea Cadet
Mount Pearl, NL

JCR Sgt Brooklyn Chippett
Top Junior Canadian Ranger
Buchans, NL

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae

Image: Guelph Museum

Participating Veterans Groups

Aboriginal Veterans Autochtones

Air Force Association of Canada

Airborne Regiment Association of Canada

Army Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Assembly of First Nations Veterans

Canadian Aboriginal Veterans and Serving Members Association

Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping

Canadian Naval Air Group Hampton Gray VC Chapter

Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association

Company of Master Mariners

Governor General's Foot Guards Association

Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association

Maritime Air Veterans Association

NATO Veterans Association

Naval Association of Canada

Nursing Sisters' Association of Canada

Rainbow Veterans of Canada

RCMP Veterans' Association

Royal Newfoundland Regiment

St. John Ambulance

Submariners Association of Canada

The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada Association

The Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa Regimental Association

The Canadian Red Cross Society

The Korea Veterans Association of Canada

The Last Post Fund

Persian Gulf Veterans of Canada

The Polish Combatants' Association Inc.

The Royal Canadian Legion

The Salvation Army

The War Amputees of Canada

Veterans UN-NATO Canada

West Indian World War ll Veterans Association

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76 Communication Regiment

Air Cadet League of Canada

Army Cadet League of Canada

Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa

Canadian Armed Forces Remembrance Day Sentry Program

Canadian Army

Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

Canadian Corps of Commissionaires

Canadian Forces Support Unit (Ottawa)

Canadian Heritage

Canadian Joint Operations Command

Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces

Chaplain General to the Canadian Armed Forces

City of Ottawa

District G (Ottawa) The Royal Canadian Legion

District 14 (Outaouais) The Royal Canadian Legion

Dominion Carillonneur, House of Commons

Dominion Command Colour Party, The Royal Canadian Legion

Fairmont Château Laurier

Governor General's Foot Guards

HMCS Carleton

Junior Canadian Rangers

Kirkland Strategies Inc.

Military Police

National Arts Centre

National Cadet and Junior Canadian Rangers Support Group

National Capital Commission

National Defence Headquarters Chief Warrant Officer

Navy League of Canada

Ottawa Children's Choir

Ottawa Paramedic Service

Ottawa Police Service

Parliamentary Press Gallery

Parliamentary Protective Service

Pipes and Drums of the RCAF Band

Public Services and Procurement Canada – Ceremonial and Protocol Services

Rabbi Idan Scher

Royal Canadian Air Force

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Royal Canadian Navy

Royal Military College

St. John Ambulance

Veterans Affairs Canada

Zone G-5 (Ottawa) The Royal Canadian Legion