

# NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY



OTTAWA, CANADA · 11 NOVEMBER 2024

**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.

## **Jme rapel**

Y viveriron paw com nouzot  
Y sron paw akapare louche  
Kan isoley scouch épis kan ky slèv  
On waw sruple dézot (response)

(Translated by France Picotte)



# 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:** Assistant Deputy Speaker  
of the House of Commons

**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. Maureen Anderson*

**Maureen Anderson** grew up in Derby, New Brunswick in the Miramichi region, but Oromocto is now home. The small town is not far from Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Gagetown where her two sons later trained to become soldiers. Maureen's life began overseas in England, where she was born. She was barely a toddler when her parents moved to Canada in 1947.

"My mother was a war bride," she explains. Her English mother had met her Canadian father while he was serving in Europe during the Second World War. A mill worker from New Brunswick, he joined the Canadian military and was part of the North Shore (New Brunswick) Regiment.

Maureen was the oldest of seven children and helped look after her siblings from a very young age. Being "church oriented" she joined Sunday school and the church choir, and along the way she babysat a lot to make money. She remembers selling wild fruit like blueberries and strawberries which she had handpicked from nearby fields, going door-to-door.

She had always wanted to be a



nurse. After graduating from Millerton High School in New Brunswick, she attended what was then the Moncton Technical Institute and graduated as a registered nursing assistant – now often called a licensed practical nurse. She stayed in New Brunswick at first, working in Moncton and then Bathurst.

"I loved it!" she recalls. That profession would later take her to Ottawa, Ontario after she noticed an ad in a newspaper looking for people to join the The Royal Canadian Air Force. It piqued her interest, and she answered that call, working at

the National Defence Medical Centre and living at the former CFB Rockcliffe.

One of her patients turned out to be her late husband Peter Anderson – an Army Veteran who began as a member of the former Regiment of Canadian Guards on Parliament Hill, and then joined the Royal Canadian Regiment. He later became a Sergeant Major and retired as a Master Warrant Officer. When the two married, Maureen recounts how she had to step down from her job with the Air Force - though she didn't want to - because of the working regulations at the time.

Peter was stationed in several locations over the years, so their family moved a lot, living in Baden-Baden Germany, Yellowknife NWT, Petawawa, and Pembroke ON, and in Oromocto. She and her husband raised two children: Ron and his younger brother Ryan. The boys were born five years apart and both would grow up to follow in their father's footsteps, joining the military as soon as they could, even before finishing High School. "They knew what they wanted," she says. While they fought regularly as youngsters, the two boys were close. They were very good buddies

right up until the end, she recalls.

Maureen still finds it hard to speak about learning the tragic news of her sons' eventual passings, and she focuses instead on who they were as two special people now residing firmly in her heart.

She describes how difficult it was to retire from the work she loved at the age of sixty-eight. It followed several months after her first son's passing, and she had other health challenges, so had to step away. But she's also an experienced seamstress who did a lot of sewing and knitting over the years - making cardigans and clothes for her sons, and uniforms for herself. She loves to bake; always happy to make sweets and squares for church functions.

She feels being named Canada's National Silver Cross Mother is a great honour and says, "it brings back a lot of memories of loss, especially if you've lost kids of your own." She plans to spend time speaking to other military mothers and families who have lost children, particularly to PTSD.

"It (PTSD) is rampant, and it's a shame," she says. A couple of her sons' friends and comrades who live with the condition, still stop by to visit her regularly to this day.

# SILVER CROSS MOTHER

## *Sgt. Ron Anderson*

**Sergeant Ron Anderson** was a member of the Royal Canadian Regiment. He served in locations including Petawawa, Croatia, Bosnia, Kosovo and had two tours of duty in Afghanistan.

Born on May 27, 1974 in Lahr, Germany, the country where his parents were living at the time, Ron knew what he wanted to do from an early age. A very active and energetic youngster, one precursor to his later desire to enlist was a favourite pastime he shared with his younger brother Ryan. "As kids, they played war games," she recalls. Ron began in cadets, then joined the militia in Nova Scotia, and later trained in Gagetown, New Brunswick, becoming a member of The Canadian Army.

While her sons rarely spoke of their roles and actions in the forces, including when they served overseas, they were clearly affected by their experiences. She believes an accumulation of tragic experiences overseas led to Ron taking his own life in 2014. Upon his return from his second tour in Afghanistan, she



says he had changed. He wanted to be alone. He was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

One bright memory Maureen shares is how Ron had been awarded a commendation for having saved the life of an injured

little boy while in Afghanistan, and under deadly circumstances. "He performed First Aid, and I guess he was surrounded by Afghans with all these guns pointed at him," she recounts. His actions in the face of danger that day don't surprise her. "That would be him," she says. "He was a rough, tough guy, that wouldn't bother him."

But Ron never told his parents he had received the award, she learned of it only after his passing. "He was very proud, he did not want any scene, any big fanfare," she says. She and her late husband later received the certificate that came with his commendation and hung it with pride in their home.

Ron had four children at the time of his passing. His son Bryce is now serving with The Canadian Army.

## *Sgt. Ryan Anderson*

**Sergeant Ryan Anderson** was a member of The Royal Canadian Regiment. He served in Gagetown and Yellowknife and in various places overseas such as Bosnia, Ethiopia, Haiti and also in Afghanistan alongside his older brother Ron.

Born on February 19, 1979 in Oromocto, New Brunswick and just about as active as his brother, Ryan was into martial arts. He trained in Taekwondo and Karate, and he did well, says his mother.

He also knew at an early age what he wanted to do. He joined the militia in Nova Scotia as soon as he could, then trained in Gagetown, New Brunswick becoming a member of The Canadian Army.

Maureen describes how both her sons' personalities changed upon their return from Afghanistan. They were not as jubilant, funny, or happy like they used to be. They were kind of "quiet" and she noticed Ryan's mental health deteriorated faster, with his condition also affecting



other parts of his life. He too was diagnosed with PTSD.

She remembers the effects of PTSD well, and how Ryan who lived in the same complex, would sometimes call her for a visit in the middle of the night.

She always said yes.

"And I would get out of

bed and go over to his apartment and get some coffees and just sit with him and listen to him." Sometimes they would just watch music videos. "Sometimes he would cry and I'd say 'what's wrong' and he would say 'I don't know'... I don't regret that, thankfully I did that," she says.

Maureen relates how Ryan's health took another downturn fairly quickly after his brother's passing, and he grew more isolated as well. He passed away in 2017. Both Ryan and his brother had been receiving help for their PTSD conditions before they passed.

Ryan had two children at the time of his passing.



# 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

### **Jake Soltys**

Sturgis, SK  
Sturgis Composite School

#351 Norquay Branch  
Poem – Senior First Place 2024

### **Antonia Tannert**

Prince George, BC  
Westside Academy

#043 Prince George Branch  
Essay – Senior First Place 2024

## VIDEO WINNER

### **Eden Hazan**

Thornhill, ON  
Westmount Collegiate Institute  
ON Command  
Video – Senior First Place 2024

## POSTER WINNERS



### **Tracy Xie**

Burnaby, BC  
Burnaby North Secondary School

#148 North Burnaby Branch  
Black and White Poster – Senior First Place 2024



### **Chaelyn Han**

Vancouver, BC  
Lord Byng Secondary School  
#142 West Point Grey Branch  
Colour Poster – Senior First Place 2024

All Contest winners can be viewed here:

[https://lnfcanda.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Winners\\_2024\\_May.pdf](https://lnfcanda.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Winners_2024_May.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 represent Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony.

## **WO1 Aiyana Barrieau**

Top Air Cadet

Wilmot, NS

## **MWO Aaron Reid**

Top Army Cadet

Reidville, NL

## **CPO2 Soyoung Yoon**

Top Sea Cadet

Kelowna, BC

## **JCR Keira Leefe**

Top Junior Canadian Ranger

Flin Flon, MB

This year, scan your Poppy  
at [poppystories.ca](https://poppystories.ca)

Meet a Canadian with  
a story to remember.

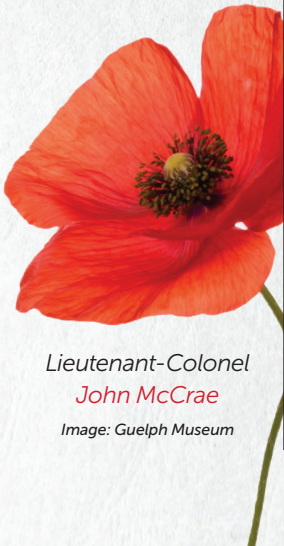


# IN FLANDERS FIELDS

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](#)

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[The Black Watch \(RHR\) of  
Canada Association](#)

[The Cameron Highlanders of  
Ottawa Regimental Association](#)

[The Canadian Red Cross Society](#)

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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 II  
Veterans Association](#)





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Royal Canadian Legion, on behalf of the people of Canada, organizes and conducts the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa.

Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion acknowledges the assistance and sincerely thanks the following organizations and individuals for their time and support with planning the National Remembrance Day Ceremony.

[30th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery](#)

[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](#)

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[Dominion Carillonneur, House of Commons](#)

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[Parliamentary Press Gallery](#)

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[Pipes and Drums of the RCAF Band](#)

[Public Services and Procurement Canada – Ceremonial and Protocol Services](#)

[Rabbi Idan Scher](#)

[Royal Canadian Air Force](#)

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