

Bernard Patrick (Pat) HARTY

Born: May 1, 1916 Died: January 23, 1976

South Saskatchewan Regiment:

The Boys of the S.S.R.

We're the boys of the S.S.R.
We're the boys of the S.S.R.
We left our homes, our loved ones, too
To fight for the red, white and blue.
And when we went over the sea
We fought for Victory;
We would like the world to be proud and say
They're the boys of the S.S.R.

Author Unknown



*Private Bernard Patrick Harty
Number: L.12568*

In April 1940, our dad enlisted in the army in Weyburn, SK, qualifying for driver 1/C Class III at Camp Shilo, and then off to Toronto. The SSR unit embarked for the United Kingdom on December 16, 1940.

The regiment participated in the raid on Dieppe on August 19, 1942. Dad was wounded in the Dieppe raid, but was still able to participate in the Italian campaign...embarkation Italy, Feb. 23, 1945; disembarked France, Feb. 25, 1945. He was in the infantry the whole of his army life and awarded the 1939-45 Star, Italy Star, France-Germany Star, Defence Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp, and War Medal 1939-1945.



Dad was a musician, as well as songwriter/composer. He couldn't read music; however he could play almost any instrument he was given (by ear): violin, guitar, harmonica, or piano. During the war, he entertained the troops, playing various instruments and singing, as well as writing love and war songs when time permitted.

Upon discharge from the army on Sep. 5, 1945, dad joined his wife and son, Verne, in Vancouver, B.C., where mom had moved during the war to work at the Boeing plant. They had five more children: Janette, Marion, Liane, Darryl and Karen.

Background:

Bernard Patrick was born May 1, 1916 on the farm at Instow, SK, the youngest son to Thomas James and Mary Ellen Harty. He was educated at the Harty School completing grade 7. From 1932 to 1940, he farmed (wheat and stock) on his father's farm, as well as other neighbouring farms. He left home to go to work on a farm at Aquadell, SK, where he met and later married Mabel Hammer. Dad enlisted in the army when their son, Verne, was just a baby.

To his siblings, dad was always called by his given name, Bernard; however, he was always known as "Pat" by his wife and friends and anyone else who knew him.

Photos:



Dad came from a very musical family; musical lessons provided by Archie Niece. From L to R: Mr. Archie Niece (teacher), Loretta (Ginger) Harty, Francis Niece, Cecilia (Pat) Harty, Carrie Pearson, & Bernard (Pat) Harty.



Dad on the violin; mom on the guitar.



April 8, 1939 Marriage: Bernard P. Harty to Mabel L. Hammer, St. Joseph's Church, Moose Jaw, SK.



In the centre: Bernard Patrick Harty and wife Mabel
On the left: Brother - John Harty (wife Lucie)
On the right: Brother - Edward Harty (wife Alice)
Married: April 8, 1939

Pictures of Pvt. B.P. Harty in uniform (1940)



SSR Cap Badge



Picture of dad playing the steel guitar, with son, Verne, playing the violin. (Vancouver, B.C.)



Picture of Verne and our dad playing their guitars. (Vancouver, B.C.)

The Harty Family:



In 1958, the Harty family moved from Vancouver, B.C. to a five-acre hobby farm in Milner, B.C. (Langley area).
Back row: Verne, Mabel (our mom), Marion, Janette, Bernard (Pat), our dad;
Front row: Liane, Darryl, and Karen.



Janette & Verne



Janette & Marion

~Music was such a big part of our lives~



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

BERNARD PATRICK HARTY

Born on May 1, 1916 in Instow, Sask.
Passed away on January 23, 1976 in Langley, B.C.

FUNERAL MASS

Tuesday, January 27, 1976 at 10:00 A.M.
St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Langley, B.C.

OFFICIATING PRIEST
FATHER F. NASH

INTERMENT: Valley View Memorial Gardens

PALLBEARERS:

Jack Worrell
George Schmidt
Frank Suek

Clarence Sartorius
Bruce Daffe
John Eason

Survived by his loving wife, Mabel; two sons – Verne of Celista, B.C., Darryl of Langley, B.C.; four daughters – Mrs. G. (Janette) McRae, Calgary, AB, Mrs. M. (Marion) Tansey of Surrey, B.C., Liane and Karen both of Langley, B.C.; six grandchildren; and three sisters.



In Closing:

We can't thank the men and women in the armed forces enough for fighting for our country so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have. The sacrifices made were unbelievable – the lives lost on the battle fields; the lives and spirits broken from the terrible pain, suffering and death they witnessed; the families left behind for so many years to carry on without them; the memories that couldn't be forgotten; and yet they "soldiered" on. Thank you, dad, for your contribution to the war effort on our behalf and that of Canada. We are eternally grateful and you are loved so much!

