NORMANDY
CEMETERIES & MEMORIALS
PERSONAL STORIES

The Westlake Brothers

Hailing from Toronto, Ontario, brothers Private George Westlake, Rifleman Albert Westlake and Rifleman Thomas Westlake were killed within days of each other. George is buried in Plot 8, Row F, Grave 12, while Thomas and Albert are buried next to each other in Plot 3, Row D, Graves 7 and 8.

Buried at Beny-Sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery
Serving with the Parachute Regiment, Emile was buried with his loyal Alsatian paratroop dog Glenn who died by his side. The personal inscription on the headstone reads:

‘Had you known our boy you would have loved him too. ‘Glen’ his paratroop dog was killed with him.’

Buried at Ranville War Cemetery

Private Jack Banks

Born in Darwen, Lancashire, Jack was serving with the Durham Light Infantry when he was killed in July 1944, aged 16 years old. He is thought to be one of the youngest British soldiers to die during the Normandy campaign.

Buried at Jerusalem War Cemetery
Allied forces launched the largest air, naval and land assaults in history in Normandy to liberate north-west Europe from the grip of German control. By the end of the day they had secured a foothold in France and would begin their advance.

The CWGC’s 18 cemeteries across Normandy give an insight into the progress of the fighting and the immense human cost of the operation. More than 22,000 Commonwealth servicemen and women are cared for by the CWGC in our Normandy cemeteries, whilst many more can be found in churchyards and villages throughout the region.
KEY SITES

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This spectacular cemetery is the final resting place of more than 4,100 Commonwealth servicemen. Make sure to visit CWGC Bayeux Memorial opposite the cemetery which commemorates 1,800 service personnel with no known grave.

Situated close to Sword Beach, where the British 3rd Division landed on D-Day, is this tranquil cemetery. On your way in, look out for the 3rd Division’s insignia on the ground at the entrance.

This area was the scene of intense fighting during the war. However, with just 48 graves, this cemetery is one of the smallest in Normandy.

Ranville became the first village to be liberated after the nearby Pegasus Bridge was captured by paratroopers of the British 6th Airborne Division.
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) commemorates the 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died in the two World Wars. It operates at 23,000 sites worldwide and in more than 150 countries and territories.

The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (CWGF) is our charitable foundation highlighting the work the CWGC does by telling the stories of those we commemorate.

Find out more at www.cwgc.org/support-us

The CWGC Experience is a unique new visitor attraction at the centre of the First World War battlefields. Take a look behind the scenes at the work of the CWGC, who care for the fallen of the two World Wars around the globe.

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Front cover: Top: Hermanville War Cemetery, Middle: Beny-Sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery, Bottom: Bayeux Memorial
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