

## ROBERT ELIOT AUSTIN



Date of Birth: 1921 (exact date is unknown.)

Date of Death, place: July 21, 1944 (age 23) He was killed in France.

Year of Graduation from WHS: June 1937 (age 16)

Rank: Lieutenant

Unit: The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada.

Facts, duties during the war: He was a soldier in the army and was part of The Black Watch.

### BURIAL SITE, DETAILS:

Cemetery: Beny-Sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery; Calvados, France.

Grave Reference: IX.C.14



### Battle Details:

- During the fight with the German forces, a former Black Watch soldier (Whitley) never trained in night fighting in built up areas. He was important for the fight however, he withdrew.
- The Black Watch was divided into a Company B and D.
- The attacking companies were out of contact with the battalion headquarters for approximately 5 hours.
- The Black Watch had to cross first at 2215 hours, because of double daylight savings.
- Company B formed the assault force, and Company D was to provide covering fire.



"Good things come in small parcels—?"  
ROBERT AUSTIN (Baby)  
Fav. Exp.—"Yeah!" (very tough).  
Pet Avers.—Women over three feet.  
Pastime—Beating up Bryce.  
Ambition—To be able to pull a classroom blind down  
Activities—Jr. Hockey (City Champs) '36; Inter Hocke  
Class Basketball (champs) '36; Class Hockey (champs)



### CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH:

- The enemy shooters started firing from high ground and Stevenson (one of the members) got injured.
- Lieutenant Robert Eliot Austin got shot too and was badly injured.
- This injury led to his death, later in July.
- On June 6, 1944, 335 officers and men of that division were killed in action or died of wounds.



### Family Details:

- Son of John Carruthers Austin and Olla Le Mesurier Austin, of Montreal.

### Bibliography:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Veterans Affairs Canada, and [books.google.ca](http://books.google.ca)

