



## Sergeant Edwin Erwin Phillips

**Born:** May 23, 1921 – Montreal, Quebec

**Enlistment:** June 24, 1942 – Montreal, Quebec

**Deceased:** November 4, 1945 – Halle, Germany, Age 24

### Military Service

**Force:** Air Force

**Unit:** Royal Canadian Air Force

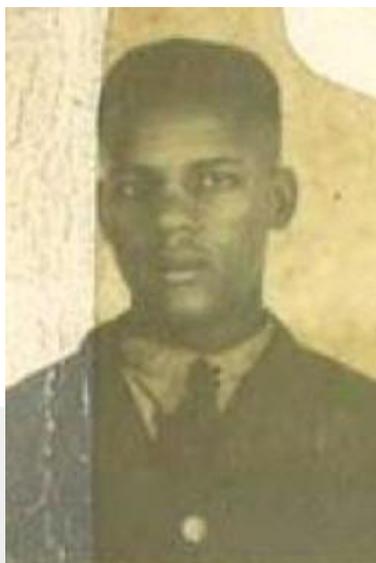
**Division:** 168 (Heavy Transport) Sqdn.



Son of Edwin and Rachel Phillips of Montreal, Quebec.

He worked as a printer's apprentice before volunteering for service with the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1942 during the Second World War. Only 21 years old when he enlisted, he would go on to work as a mechanic with the No. 168 Heavy Transport Squadron and rise to the rank of sergeant. As part of his duties, Phillips would sometimes accompany transatlantic cargo flights.

The eastern European country of Poland had suffered greatly during the Second World War and there was a serious shortage of medical supplies. The Canadian Red Cross donated tons of penicillin in response to the humanitarian crisis there after the end of the war and the military agreed to transport it overseas from Canada.



On November 4, 1945, the Flying Fortress aircraft carrying the vitally needed medicine to Warsaw, Poland crashed into a hilltop near Halle, Germany and burst into flames. Phillips and the four other crew members onboard were killed in the accident. The fallen Canadian airmen are buried at Munster Heath Cemetery in Germany.

Commemorated on [Page 554](#) of the *Second World War Book of Remembrance*. [Request a copy](#) of this page.



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## Burial Information:

Cemetery:

[MUNSTER HEATH WAR CEMETERY](#) , Germany

Grave Reference:

4. F. 22.

Location:

Munster is 57 kilometres south west of Osnabruck, and 62 kilometres north west of Dortmund. The MUNSTER HEATH WAR CEMETERY is 11 kilometres north east of the town of Munster, 3 kilometres north of the main road to Telgte and Osnabruck. Munster can be approached from the A43 or A1. Both motorways take you to the junction 'Kreuz Munster Sud'. From this junction follow the 51A road which becomes the 51 road to Telgte. When passing the railway station 'Haudorf' take the first road left which leads to the civil cemetery 'Waldfriedhof Lauheide'. MUNSTER HEATH WAR CEMETERY is signposted within the civil cemetery (with CWGC signs).

Information from Veterans Affairs Canada website:

<http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/1475742?Edwin%20Erwin%20Phillips>

*We are proud to say that one of the 117,000 trees that will be planted as part of the Highway of Heroes Living Tribute will represent the sacrifice that **Sergeant Edwin Erwin Phillips** made to serve and protect Canada.*

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