

POSTCARD



**Flying Officer
Kenneth William Hawkins
1918-2002**



Address

A Hero Lived Here

103 King Street East

Ingersoll, ON

N5C 1G8

Flying Officer Kenneth William Hawkins

Kenneth William (Bill) Hawkins was born in Davidson, Saskatchewan, December 10, 1918, one of nine siblings. Bill was living in Ingersoll, Ontario with his family by the time he was five years old. His father was involved in the livestock business and later, in the wholesale meat business. In 1940 Bill joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and he was a Sergeant by the time he was in England and continued to be promoted quickly. He underwent intensive training and became a skilled pilot. He went down with a plane on at least two occasions, once in the English Channel, but managed to survive even though his back was broken. Flying Officer Hawkins flew an estimated 75 missions. Home again in Ingersoll he met Mary Beck, and married her in September 1945. They raised three children: Margery, Dick and Bill Junior. Bill and his brothers decided to carry on the family tradition of the meat business and did so successfully. Bill took a course in auctioneering and became very successful at that and even had his own auction barn. He was active in many community groups and was a founder of the Ingersoll Historical Society.

Flying Officer Kenneth William Hawkins passed away in 2002, he rests in Harris Street Cemetery.

above excerpt from: *Thank you! A tribute to Ingersoll Veterans* by Yvonna Holmes Mott

In partnership, Oxford County Library and Ingersoll Cheese & Agricultural Museum recognize the service of Ingersoll veterans.

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