

Shelia Byford
Andrew McConnell
Joan Robbins
Bob Kitchener
Velma Kitchener
Steve Morris
Doris Morris
Steve Morgan
Celia Morgan
Merris Fronal
Heather Middleton
Jackie Middleton
Devris P.
D. Pilcain

Morice Sinila
Nicole R.
Randy Kelly
Iris Smith
Gail
Patti Dickey
Bonnie Huckstep
Sam Dickey
Bob Bawcatt
K. Yoonie
Teresa McKinnon
Bettie MacDonald
Ben & Doris

The names above were copied from the Poppy Sign up board. Thank you to all who did your Poppy duty and made this year's campaign so successful. Sorry for misspellings.

Letter to a Canadian Veteran from a young schoolgirl provided by Norm Lawton.

Dear veterans,

Thank you so much for battling for our peace and freedom. Going to war, takes so much courage and bravery. A lot of people can imagine the images from war, but they don't know they actually haven't been there. Although, you know what it's like and it must be so scary, and shodding to you. I am a 12 year old girl named Rachel. I know it may not seem like it very much, but, I respect and appreciate everything yous have done for us! You give me a lot of inspiration, and for that, I am grateful. I would never be able to do something like that! I will always remember you on this day! I don't know how you did it, but yous did! Thank you so much!

From,
Rachel.

Thousands Honour Veterans at Ottawa Remembrance Day Ceremony

Thousands of people braved grey skies and damp winds to crowd around the National War Memorial in Ottawa on Tuesday to pay tribute to Canada's war heroes in the country's largest Remembrance Day ceremony.

The day marked the 90th anniversary of the end of the First World War, which ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. Ottawa's ceremony paid special tribute to that war.

Canadian Forces chaplain Brig.-Gen. David C. Kettle led a prayer at the ceremony calling on Canadians to "honour and pray for those brave soldiers, sailors and air personnel" who served in the Great War.

"What they lived through during times of great conflict, strife and war are not just memories," Kettle said. "The sounds of war, the horror of the battle, echo in their minds as real as it was yesterday. They know the cries of suffering and pain and it's etched on their faces and in the tears in their eyes this day."

Veterans risked their lives "in the name of a better world so that the nightmare of war and death would end," he said. The gift they gave to Canada was the nation itself, he added.

The average age of veterans of the Second World War is 84 and many claimed the lines of chairs that were closest to the memorial, which also hosts the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Many more veterans stood at attention with rows of young cadets and other military personnel.

Avril Stachnik served as this year's Silver Cross mother and laid a wreath on behalf of all mothers who have lost children in wars.

Stachnik's son, Sgt. Shane Stachnik, died in September 2006 during an Operation Medusa battle with Taliban fighters in southern Afghanistan.

"This is just a tremendous honour," Stachnik told CBC News before the ceremony. "I just couldn't hardly fathom how they chose me as their Silver Cross mother but I am very honoured."

"We've all been there," Stachnik said. "We all have gone through the same thing and all I can say is keep praying for your kids. Don't ever ... forget that they're there and there for a job, and they're there because they want to be there to help people."

The Last Post played as the Peace Tower clock crept towards 11 a.m. ET. As the bells tolled out the hour, two minutes of silence fell over the downtown, ending with a bagpipe lament, followed by *The Reveille*, the reading of one stanza of the poem *For the Fallen* and four CF-18 jets flying over the downtown.

Meanwhile, down the street at Parliament Hill, artillery pieces fired a salute 21 times. At the Canadian War Museum, a beam of sunlight streamed into a specially constructed chamber, Memorial Hall, illuminating a headstone of an Unknown Soldier at exactly 11 a.m.



Only one Canadian veteran from the First World War is still alive — John Babcock, 108, who was born on an Ontario farm and lives in the United States.

Babcock participated in Ottawa's ceremony by video conference, "passing" a lit torch, a reference to Lt.-Col. John McCrae's famous

poem, *In Flanders Fields*.

"We must never forget our fallen comrades. I pass this torch of remembrance to my comrades. Hold it high," Babcock said.

Beginning with a veteran from the Second World War, the torch was handed to a Korean veteran, a peacekeeping veteran and a "modern-day" soldier who served in Afghanistan, before it was placed at the base of the memorial.

The thousands who had gathered for the ceremony then began to stream toward the memorial to place their poppies on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, covering it in the red flowers.

"It seems to be a most appropriate act at the individual level," said retired Maj. George Pearce. "But its beauty is in its spontaneity — that was never orchestrated, never planned. It just happened."



The Veteran on Our Ten Dollar Bill



If you look at the back right-hand side of a Canadian \$10 bill, you will see an old veteran standing at attention near the Ottawa war memorial. His name is Robert Metcalfe and he passed away at the age of 90.

That he managed to live to that age is rather remarkable, given what happened in the Second World War. Born in England, he was one of the 400,000 members of the British Expeditionary Force sent to the mainland where they found themselves facing the new German warfare technique - the Blitzkrieg. He was treating a wounded comrade when he was hit in the legs by shrapnel. En route to hospital, his ambulance came under fire from a German tank, which then miraculously ceased fire. Evacuated from Dunkirk on HMS Grenade, two of the sister ships with them were sunk.

Recovered, he was sent to allied campaigns in North Africa and Italy. En route his ship was chased by the German battleship Bismarck. In North Africa he served under General Montgomery against the Desert Fox, Rommel. Sent into the Italian campaign, he met his future wife, a lieutenant and physiotherapist in a Canadian hospital. They were married in the morning by the mayor of the Italian town, and again in the afternoon by a British padre.

After the war they settled in Chatham where he went into politics and became the warden (chairman) of the county and on his retirement he and his wife moved to Ottawa. At the age of 80 he wrote a book about his experiences. One day out of the blue he received a call from a government official asking him to go downtown for a photo op. He wasn't told what the photo was for or why they chose him. 'He had no idea he would be on the bill, his daughter said.

And now you know the story of the old veteran on the \$10 bill.