

Celebration to Honor the Life of Elmer Bagnall Muttart, 1918 - 1941
March 10, 2018 by Jack Sorensen, Chair of Tryon & Area Historical Society

Chairman Keith Sigsworth

Your Honor, Dean Sexton, Mayor Borden-Carleton

Members of the Borden-Carleton Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10

Members of Muttart and Bagnall Family

Daria and Pieter Valkenburg

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen. Boys and Girls

It is an honor for me today to bring greetings from the Tryon & Area Historical Society.

One of the defining characters of a nation is the honor it bestows to those who have served in various ways to ensure peace in the country and the world beyond.

Today, as a community in this great country of Canada, we carry out this tradition, by celebrating the life of a son, a brother in a family sense, a brother of a community which was his roots, and a Canadian Hero.

Elmer Bagnall Muttart, 1918 – 1941, served his community, his country, and the world, as any pilot would, but he also paid the supreme sacrifice by laying down his life for the safety of his 7 crew members, and citizens of the Dutch village of Wons, so far away from his home in Cape Traverse, PEI. As the saying goes, ‘he stayed with his plane, that others may live.’

I want to thank the Cape Traverse Iceboat Committee for sponsoring this event today, and offer our appreciation to you, Lori (Muttart) Eggert, for all the dedication you put toward organizing everything. I know it is a project dear to your heart. With the assistance of the Borden-Carleton Royal Canadian Legion, Cape Traverse Iceboat Committee, and various organizations and individuals from surrounding communities, you have all shown a dedication and respect as partners to a worthy cause which goes beyond all measure.

Special thanks go to Pieter and Daria Valkenburg for initiating the Elmer Bagnall Muttart Memorial Fund Project. As an Historical Society, we endorse your dedication and service, and acknowledge the tremendous amount of research you accomplished for bringing the name Elmer Bagnall Muttart to the forefront, where it rightfully belongs. We are proud to sponsor you in this

initiative. It is one of the many ways you have shown service to people in our communities, and we sincerely thank you for that.

As you know by now, plans are underway later this year for placing a memorial plaque at the crash location in The Netherlands to honor Elmer Bagnall Muttart and his crew. The Missing Airmen Memorial Foundation in the Netherlands, and the Tryon Area Historical Society have partnered to raise funds for this memorial. Those wishing to donate for the memorial plaque will receive a charitable receipt from TAHS which can be used for income tax purposes. We thank those who have made donations or helped in various fund-raising initiatives.

I want to thank you all for coming today, and my wife Arlene and I will be at the donations table to receive your support.

Thank you!