

*"Barrie Examiner" 18-6-41*  
**HIGH TRIBUTE  
TO MEMORY  
SERGT. DAVIS**

Christ Church, Ivy, Filled  
to Overflowing for  
Memorial Service

**R.C.A.F. GUARD HONOR**

Fitting tribute to the memory of a gallant young flier who gave his life for his country, was paid at a memorial service for Sergt. Pilot Henry Laurance Davis, 29, in Christ Anglican Church, Ivy, Sunday afternoon.

Every seat in the edifice was taken, as well as extra seats provided in the aisles and at the rear of the church. Members of the immediate family occupied the pews in the front middle section, and members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, the front pews of one side section.

The service was conducted by Rev. T. A. Wilkinson, rector of the church, assisted by Flight Lieut. W. F. Butcher, R.C.A.F. Protestant Chaplain, Camp Borden.

Squadron Leader M. F. Badgley, administrative officer, represented the commanding officer of R.C.A.F. Station, Camp Borden; Flying Officer O. S. Lang, link trainer instructor, the Air Force Baseball team; and Flying Officer Rogers, the late Sgt. Davis' graduating class of September 1941.

Flight-Sergt. A. M. McCorkindale, chief disciplinarian, a Barrie man, was in charge of a guard of honour of twelve men. The trumpeter was LAC Bart Simmons, also a Barrie man now stationed at Camp Borden, and the drummer was Corp. A. N. Griffin, leader of R.C.A.F. Band.

Sergt. Davis went overseas shortly after receiving his "wings" at Camp Borden in September 1941. He was killed on active service on May 28 and his remains were interred in Merionethshire Cemetery, Wales, on June 2.

Hymns sung during the service were "A few more years shall roll"; "Safe in the arms of Jesus"; and "Abide with me."

The lesson was taken from Thesalonians IV: 16-18: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of

God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

**High Tribute Paid**

Rev. Mr. Wilkinson paid high tribute to the late Sergt. Davis' many fine qualities in the course of his remarks in which he spoke in part as follows:

"We are gathered together in memory of one dear to us but now parted from us. Not only do we gather in his memory but to remind ourselves about him of the reward which is his. We do not gather to grieve as men without hope. Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then it follows that by means of Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. Knowing and believing that we do not grieve for Laurance, but for our own loss.

"It was my privilege to know him only a short time. However, during this past year, I have heard much about him. A life such as his—fearless for the right (which any man must be who enlists in the Air Force), a good sportsman, a good mixer, honest and straightforward.

"He was not foolhardy. Wherein lay his courage? Why was he so willing to pay this sacrifice? He had 'hope'; he was fearless in his defence of freedom. It is left to us to carry on, to carry on to ultimate success. He has left for us a great challenge to do our utmost.

"Why should we be afraid when we have the promise of the Master, 'In my Father's house are many mansions.' Let us show our 'hope' by our activity, by our anxiety to catch and carry on the torch flung to us by Laurance.

"At the reception held for Laurance last fall, you will all remember what he said about the people of Ivy: 'It is not large in size, but it is the people of Ivy which make it big'.

"He is past all fears and worries of this war; we are assured that his is a place of rest and peace and contentment. He has gone before, but soon—we know not when—we shall join him. That is the promise made to us; that our faith, our belief in the death and resurrection of the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ—will be rewarded by a place in heaven.

"He in whose memory we meet, was baptized in this parish—his sins washed away. Laurance lived in the belief that he would be called when his appointed time was come. So must we all live and so must we all prepare."

At the conclusion of the service, the trumpeter sounded "Last Post" and "Reveille" with the sounding of the muffled drum between the two selections.