

Lynn D.
Fairweather
Daughter of an
English War Bride
Aquitania
1944



My Canadian Soldier Father was sent to Italy and my Mother was scooped up in the middle of the night to be taken to Canada where she would live with my father's family until his return. She once told her story on a CBC Remembrance Day Program, a tape of which I have. What makes my parents' story different is that most war brides came after their husbands' return to Canada and, for a lot of women, this was not only culture shock but also realty shock to see their 'love' in a new environment and, to think that they had married this (insert your own description) g.u.y.

My father returned to Canada while still a soldier, in uniform, and was greeted by the lovely lass that he left behind. They fell in love all over again and were together until 2 years ago when my father died from a brain tumor. This led to my mother's downfall and she now resides in a nursing home in Vancouver - a victim of Multi Infarct Dementia. I once said "Mom, you were so brave to come to Canada as a war bride." "No", she replied, "Not 'brave' darling...just stupid."

This past month I had an opportunity to speak with my Uncle in England about my mom and what went on back then. It suddenly dawned on me that my mom was only a teen when the war broke out and when the soldiers began arriving. No wonder she was able to leave everything behind for love - not really stupid...just young. The Victorian War Brides Society has published a wonderful collection of war bride stories.