



## In Memoriam

GLENISTER, John Michael (1936 - 1955) Age: 19

UNTD SCOTIAN 1952 U-28425



John attended Saint Mary's U and had 3 UNTD summers: 1953, 1954, 1955.

Born on June 5, 1936, in Halifax, he would have turned 17 during his first UNTD summer. He was killed in the crash of a Harvard at RCAF Station MOOSE JAW, on August 2, 1955, at the age of 19. That was during the days when UNTDs were able to train as Pilots, Observers and Air Engineers during the summers, at SHEARWATER and various RCAF Stations, in support of the Naval Reserve Air Squadrons.

In the October 11, 1955 issue of the Saint Mary's Journal (the student newspaper) an In Memoriam was prepared for John. That same document was used as a separate page for the SMU Yearbook (The Collegian) issued in the spring of 1956. see picture on p2 below:

As he was killed on Active Service, he appears in the Books of Remembrance in the Peace Tower, Ottawa. see picture on p3 below:

We have known about this for some time, put some particulars have only recently surfaced.

We have not come across the details of the accident itself and there is one other fine point to be resolved. Although he is buried alongside his parents, in Bedford, NS, it appears that he may initially have been buried at Moose Jaw. The picture on p4 below shows his headstone as well as another grave marker showing his U-number and his rank as a Cadet RCN(R). A closeup of the Marker itself is on p5.

He is also ranked as a Cadet on his Book of Remembrance page. Yet in the SMU In Memoriam he is referred to as a SLT. This suggests that he might have been posthumously promoted at some point shortly after his death ? At the time of his death he would have been very close to completing his 3rd summer and in the normal course of events have been promoted to A/SLT shortly thereafter.

WAC  
January 3, 2018

## IN MEMORIAM

Early in August Saint Mary's was saddened by the loss of one of its best students. Sub/Lieut. John M. Glenister, attached to the Fleet Air Arm of the Canadian Navy, died at the controls of his Harvard training plane, near Moose Jaw, Sask. The son of Doctor and Mrs. E. J. Glenister, John was to enter his senior year at Saint Mary's in the faculty of Arts.

During his years at Saint Mary's John worked hard and conscientiously at anything which he thought would better his Church, College and Society. Although an honor student through high school and college, he always found time for extra - curricular activities. During the 1954-55 term he served as Secretary of the Debating



Society, Chairman of the CFCCS and CCSMC, a member of the Sodality and Glee Club, and for the present year had been elected to serve on the executive of the Arts Society.

His service life was much like his college life in that he showed the same keen interest in anything he took upon himself. His ratings during his three years were above average and this year he had led his class in his examinations. His officers and friends in the Navy spoke very highly of John, mentioning in particular his public devotion to the Church, even among non-Catholics. One thing in particular his friends noticed and admired him for was the fact that he would never go up in his plane without first making sure he had his rosary.

In private life as well as in his service and college life, John set an example for everyone who knew him. In working for the Church no task was too great for him to undertake. The Catholic Youth Adoration Hour, which he himself had built up from an idea to a reality, is a clear example of this. Few indeed were the mornings he missed Mass and Communion and always was he ready to stand up for the defense of his faith.

Always popular with his friends and fellow students, John was ever willing to help someone in need. His friendliness, generosity, broad-mindedness, and quick sense of humor, made him well-liked by all who knew him. Participation in sports, and attendance at almost all social functions made him known and admired by all as a young man who always kept a perfect balance between religious, scholastic and social activities.

The loss of John to Saint Mary's is indeed a great one. It will be felt greatly by all the students, but in particular by the organizations and societies for which he worked so hard.

To his family and friends, the senate, faculty and students of Saint Mary's express their heartfelt sorrow and deepest sympathy.

- FLYING OFFICER  
**Linklater, Robert George** 26 October 1955  
 430 (FIGHTER) SQUADRON
- CADET  
**Glenister, John Michael** 2 August 1955  
 HMCS SCOTIAN
- SQUADRON LEADER  
**Zaleschuk, George James, CD** 22 June 1955  
 423 ALL WEATHER FIGHTER SQUADRON
- FLYING OFFICER  
**West, Donald Edward** 21 April 1955  
 121 COMMUNICATIONS AND RESCUE FLIGHT
- FLYING OFFICER  
**Hahn, Raymond Lawrence** 5 May 1955  
 NO. 2 FLYING TRAINING SCHOOL
- FLYING OFFICER  
**Slee, Richard Francis** 8 February 1955  
 NO. 1 (FIGHTER) OPERATIONAL TRAINING UNIT
- PETTY OFFICER, 2ND CLASS  
**McLeod, Laverne Donald** 16 June 1955  
 HMCS NIobe (ON EXCHANGE)





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