

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this on behalf of my father Lowell Barr, who before his passing was a proud lifelong resident of Shubenacadie.

When the allied forces asked for young men to enlist during the second world War, my father along with two of his brothers answered the call, as did many other young men from Shubenacadie. One of the last view of the village was when they went through by train from Ontario to Halifax before boarding ships bound for Europe, and quite possibly saw our beautiful cenotaph on the way, by situated in the very center of our community. What an inspiration that must have been!

Upon his return from France where he served as a medic, Dad proudly led the March of the Veterans to the cenotaph each remembrance day until his death.

Dad was forever changed by his experience overseas and he never spoke to us, his family, of what he witnessed while serving. However, probably because of those experiences and seeing the sacrifices made by his comrades for our freedom and liberty he was always a very staunch advocate for democracy and especially the importance of the right to vote. By voting he believed we placed our trust in our elected officials at all levels of government, to be honest, transparent, and most important listen to their constituents' concerns and act accordingly on their behalf, not on an agenda of their own making. I know he would be very disheartened to think that this wasn't the case in his beloved community. Our veterans of yesterday and today deserve our respect and the cenotaph which until recently, in the center of Shubenacadie, somehow, I believe conveyed that to everyone driving by. The decision to move it without public consultation to me undermines everything my father and others like him fought for.

Shelley Edgett