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William Avery Bishop

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William Avery Bishop

A Canadian fighter pilot and ace credited with destroying 72 enemy aircraft during the First World War

“Better to die voluntarily crashing than to have the enemy send you down in flames”
-- William ‘Billy’ Avery Bishop

Fall 1911: Entered the Royal Military College

2 June 1917: Awarded the Victoria Cross — Canada’s highest award for military valour – for destroying several German planes during a solo mission

1939-1945: Promoted to Air Marshall at the outbreak of WWII, Bishop was in charge of recruitment for the RCAF

8 February 1894: Born in Owen Sound, Ontario

August 1914: Lieutenant Bishop joins the Mississauga Horse Regiment to fight in WWI

October 1917: Married sweetheart, Margaret Burden

11 September 1956” Died in Palm Beach, Florida