



Left Lou Wise & Bradford Brothers, Right Tommy White Ad Astra Stones Photo - R. Winson

Aero Tribute - Robert W. (Bob) Bradford / T.L. White / Lou Wise

Ad Astra Ceremony Trenton CFB

The 16th Annual Ad Astra Stone Dedication Ceremony was held at CFB Trenton on September 24, 2011. The site was the RCAF Memorial Airpark located adjacent to the National Air Force Museum of Canada. There were approximately 300 new stones dedicated at the ceremony. The “Ad Astra” program consists of engraved granite stones lining the pathways of the large outdoor Airpark, collectively paying tribute to Canadians who have served in our Air Force (“Royal” or otherwise!) in many different capacities, including Canadians who served in Allied Air Forces of other countries. There are presently about 10,000 “Stones” in the Airpark. Of special interest to the Chapter were two new Ad Astra stones inducted this year in recognition of **Lou Wise** and T. L. “Tommy” White. Lou is a well known and popular member of the Chapter and has given many presentations to the Chapter. During WWII, Lou served in the RCAF as both a ground crew member on P-40’s in Alaska and as a flight instructor on Ansons in Ontario. He has been a longtime pilot, still actively in the sky, with his award winning aerial environmental photography in the service of Ontario’s Conservation Authorities. “Tommy” White is the great uncle of Chapter member, John Bertram’s, wife. T/Sgt. Thomas L. White of Kingston, Ontario served as a B-24 radio operator and waist gunner with the 15th U.S. Air Force’s 485th Bomb Group (829th Squadron) based at Venosa, Italy. He was killed in action in September, 1944 when his plane was shot down close to the completion of his 50th mission. Also in attendance at this year’s ceremony was **Robert W. (Bob) Bradford** who had his stone and that of his twin brother, James, inducted at a previous ceremony. Bob Bradford is Canada’s foremost aviation painter, a former Director of CAHS and became the Patron of the CAHS in 1988. Bob has been a continuous contributor of aviation historical paintings for CAHS Journal covers for many decades. Lou’s brand new stone is located adjacent to that of the Bradford brothers in the “J” section of the park. If you are ever in the vicinity of CFB Trenton, the Airpark and museum are well worth a visit. *John Bertam, Robert Winson*



Lou Wise & Bob Bradford at Ad Astra Ceremony CFB Trenton September 24, 2011
Photo - R. Winson