

This monument was erected in honoured memory of Canadian Naval Pilot
Lieutenant R. H. Gray, VC, DSC, RCNVR
1917 – 1945

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1945 He fearlessly led a carrier air strike against ships of the Imperial Japanese Navy in Onagawa bay.

Although his aircraft was hit and severely damaged by accurate fire from the brave defenders he continued to lead the attack. Afterwards he was unable to control his burning aircraft and crashed into the bay.

He was posthumously awarded Canada's highest medal for bravery and was the last Canadian to die in action in World War II.

Now former enemies have become friends and the people of Onagawa bay with great kindness have supported the establishment of this memorial.

It is hoped that it will contribute to the repose of the souls of those who died on both sides and be a lasting symbol of peace and friendship between our two nations. カナダ海軍パイロット、ビクトリア勲章・特別功労章受章 カナダ海軍義勇予備役 R. H. グレー大尉(1917-1945) の栄誉を記念して、この記念碑を建立した。

1945年8月9日、グレー大尉は艦載機編隊を率いて女川湾の日本帝国海軍艦艇を果敢に攻撃し、勇敢なる防備側の正確な砲火によって乗機が被弾・大破するもなお攻撃を指揮し続けたが、燃える乗機が操縦不能に陥り、湾内に墜落した。

武勲により没後カナダの最高勲章ビクトリア勲章を授けられ、第二次大戦における最後のカナダ人戦死者となった。

昨日の敵は今日の友となり、女川の人々は多大の好意をもってこの記念碑の建立を援助した。

この碑が この戦闘の戦没者全員の霊を慰め、平和と我等 両国の友情の変わらぬ徴しとならんことを。