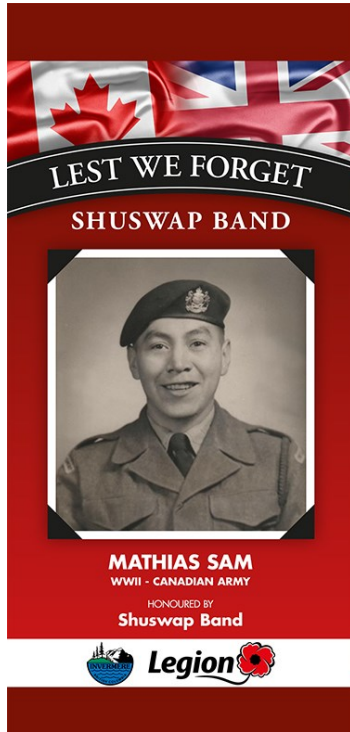


## SAM, MATHIAS JAMES



Mathias was born into the Columbia Lake Band, also known as the Akisqnuq Band, and attended St. Eugene Residential School near Cranbrook. A teenager in World War Two, he served with the Canadian Army, as did his father Martin Sam and his brother Frank Sam. After he was discharged from the army, he returned to Invermere and married Florence. They raised Gary, Alana, Charlena, Ida, Floyd, and Martin. Mathias was a sawyer, fruit picker, logger, and fire lookout on Mount Swansea. He lived most of his life in Invermere and died on April 5, 2008.



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