

## Distinguished vets honoured at Perley Rideau

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The Order of St. George Investiture ceremony was held at the Perley Rideau in Ottawa Monday Nov 3, 2014. Leslie Bowley holds his great grand-daughter Mallory after receiving the The Order. Tony Caldwell/Ottawa Sun/QMI Agency

A select group of distinguished residents of the Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Centre were recognized Monday for serving their country with "great pride and dignity" during World War II and the Korean War.

The investiture into the Order of St. George -- with the 11 nominees all residents, tenants and volunteers of the Perley Rideau -- has become an annual pre-Remembrance Day tradition since the Order was established in Canada in 2003.

And for the veterans assembled at the ceremony, it was a chance to trade old war stories with their families and fellow veterans.

"It makes me feel very well to hear these stories and talk about that time in my life," said Tony Golab, 95, his ceremonial medal pinned next to the Order of Canada on his lapel, and wearing a wide smile as his wartime escapades were retold.

"I still look back fondly at those times."

Back in Canada, Golab starred for the Ottawa Rough Riders, retiring in 1950, and making his way into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame, and later Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

Two happy couples were among those recognized, including Norma Zelia Watts, 93, and husband Jack Watts, 95, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary last week.

"We're very grateful to Canadians -- they have always been so good to the English people," said Hilda Bowley, 95, who followed a similar path to Canadian shores to join husband Leslie Bowley, who enlisted in 1939 and was awarded five war medals for his service.

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