

## RANKINE, William Jeffrey

Service Number 430697

Rank Private

Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment), 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Born April 19, 1887, Liverpool, Lancashire, England

Died October 4, 1916, No. 3 Canadian General Hospital,  
Boulogne

Occupation Rancher

Marital Status Single

Few details are known about William Jeffrey Rankine. He emigrated to Canada from a small town called Wallasey, which is near Liverpool, England. Although he isn't listed in the BC Directories, his Wallasey obituary states that he farmed here for five years.

William Rankine enlisted in March 1915 in the 48<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was transferred to the 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion in September 1915. He spent fourteen months fighting in France. In 1916, the 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion took part in the Battle of Courcellette and suffered huge casualties. Around 7,000 Canadian men lost their lives during the weeklong battle.

His military records note that on September 18, 1916, he was admitted to the No. 3 Canadian Hospital with multiple gunshot wounds. On September 29, he was reported seriously ill and on October 4, 1916, he died of septic infection of his chest wounds.

William Jeffrey Rankine is buried in the Boulogne Eastern Cemetery in Pas-de-Calais, France. His brother David Rankine was also killed in WWI.

Sources: Photo: History of Wallasey.co.uk / Remember the fallen  
Personnel Records of the First World War, Library and Archives Canada  
Books of Remembrance, Veterans Affairs Canada  
Circumstances of Death Registers, Library and Archives Canada  
Wikiwand.com / 27<sup>th</sup> Battalion

