

## REYNOLDS, Edward

Service Number 77892

Rank Private

Born January 30, 1890, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, England

Died September 11, 1917, Vancouver, British Columbia

Occupation Rancher

Marital Status Single

Edward Reynolds was the only son born to a well-off family that resided at Paxton Hall, St. Neots, in Huntingdonshire. He and his two sisters were brought up as wards of the court after their parents died. He was educated at Haileybury Imperial Service College, and afterwards emigrated to Canada with one of his sisters. According to his obituary in the St. Neots Advertiser, his sister settled in Victoria, BC, while Edward bought land to ranch. At 21, he travelled home to arrange his affairs and meet the tenants on the estate he inherited, before returning to Vancouver Island.

As soon as WWI began in 1914, Edward Reynolds enlisted in the 88<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers. He was transferred to the 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion and then the 7<sup>th</sup>, and on May 8, 1915, arrived in France. On May 24, during the Battle of Festubert, he was wounded in action, by shrapnel to the head and hand. Transferred to the hospital at Boulogne, he was operated on twice before being transferred to hospitals in England for more surgeries to mend compound fractures of his skull. A year later he was discharged as being medically unfit for service. He returned to Vancouver, where his sister now lived. He could not hear properly and suffered from headaches and seizures.

On September 11, 1917, while suffering a seizure, Edward Reynolds had an accident which resulted in his death. He is commemorated at the Halifax Memorial and in St. Neots, Huntingdonshire.

Sources: Personnel Records of the First World War, Library and Archives Canada  
Dean Mandryk  
Roll of Honour / Huntingdonshire.uk



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