

WARD, Graham Stuart

Service Number 129265

Rank Private

Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment), 16th Battalion

Born 1882 or 1881, Sheffield, England

Died December 14, 1916, Mouquet Farm, France

Occupation Farmer

Marital Status Single

Born in Sheffield, England, Graham Stuart Ward was the youngest of twelve children. His family emigrated to Canada except for one of his brothers who married instead. The photo of Graham in his top hat originates from a group photograph of that wedding. The family settled at Hilliers Crossing to farm.

Graham Ward enlisted in September 1915. After training in England, he was posted to France and arrived on June 19, 1916.

Graham was killed in action during a long, intense, chaotic battle on Mouquet Farm, where conditions were so bad it was difficult to distinguish the location of the front lines. His military records state he was killed some time between September 4 and September 7, 1916. Later, the official date was given as September 4. His body was not recovered until 1938, when a farmer ploughing his field stumbled on it and identification was made from his dog tag.

Graham Stuart Ward is commemorated at the Vimy Memorial and at the Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle. He is buried at London Cemetery and Extension, Somme, France.

Sources: Photo: Omnia.ie / 1914 – 1918 europeana / eu contributions
Personnel Records of the First World War, Library and Archives Canada
Books of Remembrance, Veterans Affairs Canada
The History of the 16th (The Canadian Scottish) Battalion by Hugh MacIntyre Urquhart

