

WW I Enlisted Men & Women of Whitewater Region Project

Private James Samuel Patterson

Pte. James Samuel Patterson, son of **David Patterson** and **Jane Elizabeth Wilson**, was born on 28 Dec 1890 at Greenwood, Ontario. He was towards the middle of the family of at least 10 children.¹ At the age of 24 years, 8 months, he enlisted into the 77th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force on Aug 12, 1915 at Smith's Falls, Ontario. He listed his occupation as farmer. He was 5' 6" with grey eyes and brown hair. He weighed 145 lbs.² His father had passed in 1912.

He was transferred overseas on Oct 22, 1915 and on Mar 14, 1916 departed for France with the 21st Battalion. He sustained a gunshot wound to the left thigh on Oct 4, 1916 and was moved to the No. 4 Canadian Field Ambulance. He returned to action and on Dec 29, 1916, (one day after his 26th birthday), Pte. Patterson was reported missing and later for official purposes presumed to have died at Bully Grenay, Pas de Calais, France. His body was never recovered.^{2,3} His name is engraved on the Canadian National Vimy Memorial at Vimy, Pas de Calais, France.^{4,5} He is also honored on the War Memorial in Beachburg⁷, Westmeath⁸ and Pembroke. The British War Medal, Victory Medal, Plaque (Dead Man's Penny), Scroll and Memorial Cross were sent to his mother, Mrs. Jane Wilson.⁶

Sources:

1. Bennett, Fay E., Faysgenealogy.com. www.faysgenealogy.com : family history database & images; 2001-present. Cobden, ON. (Original sources noted in database)
2. "Personnel Records of the First World War." Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa. Digital images. Library and Archives Canada. <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/search.aspx>. <https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/item.aspx?IdNumber=565592>
3. "Circumstances of Death Registers, First World War." Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa. Digital images. https://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=img&app=microform&id=31829_B016767-01216
4. The Canadian Virtual War Memorial: Veterans Affairs Canada. "The Canadian Virtual War Memorial (CVWM)." Database. Veterans Affairs Canada. www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial/detail/1572880?James%20Samuel%20Patterson
5. Commonwealth War Graves Commission. "Commonwealth War Graves Commission." Database. <https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/1572880/james-samuel-patterson/>
6. 21st Battalion http://21stbattalion.ca/tributeos/patterson_js.html
7. Photograph of The Beachburg War Memorial, photographed by Fay Bennett
8. Photograph of The Westmeath War Memorial, photographed by Fay Bennett

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In Memory Of
Private

JAMES SAMUEL PATTERSON

Service Number: 144657

21st Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 29 December 1916 Age 29

Son of Jane E. Patterson, of 332, Murray St., Pembroke, Ontario, and the late David Patterson.

Remembered with Honour

VIMY MEMORIAL



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WAR GRAVES
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COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION