



# Private Norman Chester Leckie

1889 - 1918

FIRST WORLD WAR

Army: Canadian Infantry, 54th Battalion

Norman was born in Sarnia in 1889, the youngest child of Robert and Margaret Leckie. Robert, a local farmer, and Margaret had four children together. In 1911, twenty-two-year-old Norman was living in Saskatchewan with his older brother where they farmed together. Four years later, in late December 1915, single and still farming, Norman enlisted in Saskatoon. He arrived in England in June 1916 and in France in August 1916 finding himself in the thick of fighting during the Battle of the Somme--one of the bloodiest and most futile battles in history.

In October 1916, Private Norman Leckie of the 54th Battalion was wounded in action on the Somme battlefield. Enemy shrapnel had torn into his left hip, his lower back, and his pelvis. He spent the next several months at various hospitals in France and England recovering and undergoing numerous operations. He was returned to Canada, where he underwent further operations and painful yet hopeful convalescence.

On October 10, 1918, Norman Leckie, 29, succumbed to his wounds, passing away in Davisville Hospital, Toronto. His full military funeral was held in Sarnia and he is buried in Lakeview Cemetery. One month after his death, the Armistice agreement was signed, ending the Great War.



**THE SARNIA  
WAR REMEMBRANCE  
PROJECT**

by Tom Slater and Editor Tom St. Amand