

Lieutenant Joseph John Walters

1894 - 1917 FIRST WORLD WAR

Army: Canadian Infantry, 20th Battalion

Joseph was born in Sarnia in 1894, the only child of Jacob and Anna Walters. Six years later, the Walters family was living in London. In April 1916, twenty-one-year-old Joseph completed his Officers' Declaration Paper in St. Thomas. He was a journalist at the time, and had prior militia experience with the 25th Elgin Regiment. He arrived in England in early July 1916 and trained there for over two months before arriving in France in late September 1916.

As a member of the 20th Battalion he was soon taking part in the Battle of the Somme--one of the most futile and bloody battles in history. Joseph survived this horrendous battle and continued to fight on into the following spring. During that time, he was granted a 10-day leave in England and was later hospitalized in France for two weeks, the result of pyrexia. On May 10, 1917, while fighting in France,

Lieutenant Joseph Walters was recorded as "killed in action, in the field". Twenty-one-year-old Joseph Walters remains were originally buried in Acheville Road Cemetery, and later exhumed and reburied in Lievin Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France.



