

THE STORY OF LANCE CORPORAL WINTER JAMES

6 Dec 1892 – 26 July 1917

We never got to meet our Grandfather. We only know what we have been told and what we have learned through research.

Winter gave his all for England, as did thousands of other men and women in WWI, but that did not lessen the grief of his wife and family upon learning of his death. Adding to their sadness and shock was their having received a letter from a comrade dated 24 July 1917 informing them that Winter had been wounded in the right hand but was progressing satisfactorily and would soon be coming home on leave. But Winter died of his wounds 26 July at the 2nd Canadian Hospital, Le Treport, France. Corporal James is buried in the Mont Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, France, Memorial Grave reference: II G 14A. Winter was survived by his widow, Ada, three year old daughter, Ivy, his parents, Abraham and Lucy, and six sisters and one brother. In April 1926, Ada went to visit Winter's Grave at Mount Huon accompanied by her sister in law, Eva James. We can only imagine what an emotional moment that must have been for Ada and the other widows and family members.

Before the war, in 1914, Winter was employed at the Williamthorpe Colliery and on 28 February of that year he married Ada Elizabeth Baston of Brampton. On 15 February 1915, Winter enlisted in the Grenadier Guards. He was sent to France on 12 December 1916, serving with the 1st Battalion.

The obituary of 11 Aug 1917 states, "He was a man of fine physique, standing well over six feet." A memorial service for Lance Corporal James was held on 12 Aug 1917 at St. Thomas's Church, Chesterfield, Derbyshire and his name is inscribed on the cenotaph in the church yard.

Ivy Marie (Bradshaw) Boozel

Joyce Sylvia (Bradshaw) Barner

Thelma Nadine (Bradshaw) Montgomery

