

# Fathers and sons who served together in the 60th battalion

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## Bryant

Charles (457202) – Charles Jr. (457675) - Edward (458625)

Charles Bryant was an elevator operator in civilian life and a member of the 55th Irish Rangers Militia when he signed up with the 60th battalion on June 9, 1915. He listed his date of birth as October 1, 1871. Major Pavey noted his age as forty three years, three months. He was the Company Sargent Major for C Company. Charles Jr signed up on June 28th. He was born on May 5, 1897 and Major Pavey dutifully note his age as eighteen years, two months. Edward signed up on October 29th and listed his date of birth as July 7, 1898. Major Pavey noted his age as seventeen. It was permitted to join at seventeen but a man was not to be sent into action until he was nineteen.

The three men sailed for England with the Battalion on November 5, 1915. February 17, just days before the battalion sailed for France, Charles Sr was transferred to the base company and then on February 28th he was transferred to the 54th Battalion and sail to France on August 13, 1916. Charles Jr and Edward went to France with the 60th Battalion.

Edward was sent to the 3rd divisional rest station May 23, 1916 suffering from Shell Shock. He rejoined the battalion on June 7th. On September 18 while C Company was in the sunken road behind the battalion's jumping off trenches when he was killed by an artillery round. His body was never recovered and he is commemorated on the Vimy Memorial. He was eighteen years old at the time of his death.

Three weeks later on October 11, Charles Jr was admitted to No 26 General Hospital in Rouen suffering from multiple shrapnel wounds to his head and shoulder. The next day he was sent to England and transferred to the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre at Shoreham-on-sea. The shrapnel had fractured his skull. He remained in England until he was demobilized in 1919. Charles Jr would pass away thirty five years to the day that he was wounded on October 10, 1951.

News of Edward's death and Charles' injury hit Charles Sr very hard and on November 18-1916 he was admitted to No 1 Australian General Hospital in Rouen suffering from Myalgia. On the 25th he was transferred back to England to the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre at Hastings. He would be admitted to the 1st Scottish General Hospital in Aberdeen. Charles transfer from hospital to hospital for the next year trying to cure his Myalgia. On October 4, 1917 he appeared before a medical board. The board had a copy of his birth certificate showing his true age of fifty two years. They determined he would not be able to resume active duty for at least six months. He was transferred back to Canada on November 17, 1917 for discharge. He would join the 4th Battalion Canadian Garrison regiment where he would serve until discharged in February, 1919. Charles passed away on March 27, 1946 at Ste Anne De Belleview Hospital.