

Fathers and sons who served together in the 60th battalion

McHaffie

James Culley (458547) – James Herriot (121816)

James Culley McHaffie was almost forty years old when he signed up with the 60th Battalion on August 15, 1915, two weeks after recruiting for the battalion was to have stopped. He requested that he be in D Company with his friend Robert Ingram (458518) who had signed up the previous day. James Culley came with a pedigree; he had served for eighteen years in the 2nd Battalion Scottish Rifles and saw action in the South African War.

James Sr. would serve with the 60th until he was transferred to the 87th Battalion when the 60th was disbanded on April 23, 1917. On November 15th he would be transferred out of the 87th to the Canadian Labour pool and eleven days later transferred from the pool to the Canadian Forestry Corps where he would serve until demobilized February 19, 1919. James Culley would pass away on May 6, 1936 at the age of sixty.

Jams Herriot McHaffie was living in New Brunswick and working as a farmer when he signed up with the 69th Battalion in St, John on March 11, 1916. He had no way of knowing that he would soon be joining his father in France.

He arrived in England on the 28th of April, 1916 and on the 5th of July was transferred to the 23rd Reserve Battalion. On the 28th of August, 1916 as the 60th Battalion was preparing to leave Belgium for the Somme he was drafted the 60th as part of a reinforcing draft. He would not join the battalion until September 21, 1916 in the middle of the battle for Courcellette. On February 8, 1917 he was admitted to No 9 Canadian Field Ambulance with an inflammation of the middle ear. He was discharged back to duty four days later. On March 22, 1917 he was admitted to No 2 General Hospital in Le Havre suffering from Red Measles. He would be discharged from the hospital on April 10 and on the 23rd of April he was transferred to the 87th Battalion on the disbanding of the 60th. Once again he would be reunited with his father. That would be short lived and on April 30th he was classified "Permanent Base" and transferred to the Canadian Corps Composite Company. He would serve in various capacities including duty with the Y.M.C.A. before being transferred back to England on the 20th of May, 1919, well after the fighting had stopped. He would be discharged from the army on June 13, 1919 as Medically Unfit for further service.