

Durrington War Graves

World War 1



Lest We Forget



360342 FLT. CADET

P. S. RYAN

ROYAL AIR FORCE

13TH JULY, 1918



Philip Stephen RYAN

Philip Stephen Ryan was born on 22 July, 1898 at Killaloe, Ontario, Canada to parents William Ryan & Mary Agnes Ryan (nee Devine). He was christened the same day as he was born - 22 July, 1898 at Our Lady of the Angels, Brudenell, Renfrew, Ontario.

Philip Stephen Ryan stated he was aged 18 years & 5 months when he enlisted with 159th Battalion, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force on 17th January, 1916. He was living at Charlton, Ontario & was a Clerk. His religion was Roman Catholic & he belonged to 97th Regiment. He was given the service number of 648789. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs W. Ryan.

Philip Stephen Ryan was discharged from the Canadian Forces on 17th May, 1918 so that he could re-enlist on 18th May, 1918 with Cadet Flying & was given an official number of 360342.

When World War 1 began, Canada did not have its own air force and, until the RFC established training camps in Canada in January 1917, the only way for a Canadian to become a war pilot was to enlist in the regular forces and try to transfer to the air service, or to travel at his own expense to England and attempt to enlist directly. It is impossible to determine the exact number of Canadians who joined the RFC, but it is estimated that over 20,000 Canadians had joined the British flying services by the end of World War 1.

Flight Cadet Philip Stephen Ryan was attached to 1st School of Navigation and Bomb Dropping (R.A.F.). This was located at an aerodrome close to Stonehenge, Wiltshire.

Flight Cadet Philip Stephen Ryan was killed on 13th July, 1918 in England when the aircraft he was in, stalled & nose-dived to the ground. Lieutenant T. W. Laybourne was injured in the accident.

A Court of Enquiry was held No. C. 13740 . F/Cadet P.S. Ryan & Lieut. T. W. Laybourne “The cause of the accident was in our opinion due to the fact that the machine was stalled after taking off.”

A death for Philip S. Ryan, aged 19, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire, England.

Flight Cadet Philip Stephen Ryan was buried in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire in Grave / Plot Number 288 on 17th July, 1918. His death is acknowledged by Commonwealth War Graves Commission & as such he has a CWGC headstone.



Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire (Photo by Dave Healing 2013)

Flight Cadet Philip Stephen Ryan is remembered on page 593 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance, Canadian Virtual War Memorial.

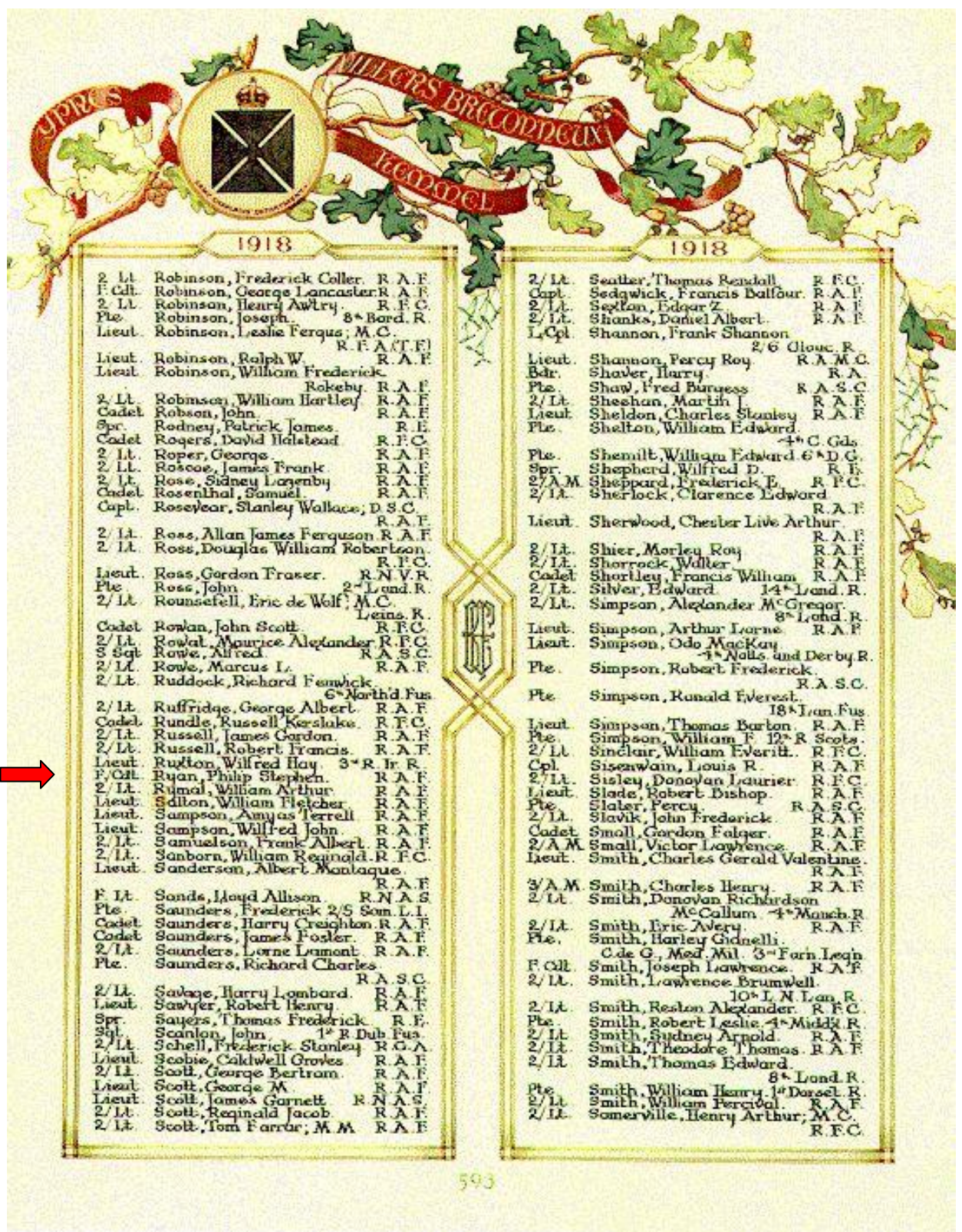


Photo of Flight Cadet P. S. Ryan's headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo by Ian King- 2010)