

**Private Walter Daniel©**  
**Regimental number: 841200**  
**42nd Battalion, Canadian Infantry**

**born: 24 April 1883 – died: 23 February 1918**

Private Walter Daniel was born on 24 April 1883<sup>1</sup> in White Ladies Aston,<sup>2</sup> near Worcester, Worcestershire, England,<sup>3</sup> the son of John and Ann Daniel.<sup>4</sup> His father was born in about 1856 in Evesham, Worcestershire, and his mother about two years earlier in Cleobury Mortimer, Worcestershire.<sup>5</sup> They had at least six children: Sarah A. (born in about 1878), Alfred (born in about 1881), Walter, John (born in about 1885), Lucy (born in about 1888) and Annie (born in about 1890).<sup>6</sup>

In 1891, the family was living on Stourport Road in Hartlebury, Droitwich in Worcestershire, where Walter's father was an agricultural labourer.<sup>7</sup> Ten years later his father had become a railway labourer and the family had moved a few miles away to Astwood in North Claines, Droitwich.<sup>8</sup> Walter was now working as a journeyman baker.

Later that year, Walter worked, perhaps for only a short time, as a machinist in the Worcester factory of the Great Western Railway.<sup>9</sup> He left of his own accord on 25 October 1901.

The following year, he married Amy Bunce (born in about 1878)<sup>10</sup> on 23 November 1902 at St. Paul's church in Worcester.<sup>11</sup> Their first son, Herbert Harold, was born three years later in Droitwich.<sup>12</sup>

Two years later, Walter immigrated to Canada. He sailed on the *SS Canada* from Liverpool, arriving in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, via Portland, Maine, United States, in April 1907.<sup>13</sup> His wife and son joined him a few months later. Amy and Herbert sailed on the *SS Tunisian* from Liverpool, arriving on 2 August in Montreal, Quebec.<sup>14</sup>

The following year, a second son was born; Ivor Alfred was born on 16 July 1908 and baptized on 13 August in Nelsonville, Quebec.<sup>15</sup> In 1911, the family was living in Chateauguay, Quebec, where Walter was working as a baker.<sup>16</sup> Walter and Amy's third son, Reginald Walter, was born on 6 September 1914 and baptized on 11 October in Huntingdon, Quebec.<sup>17</sup>

Walter enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Overseas Force in Montreal on 19 January 1916.<sup>18</sup> At the time he was living in Cowansville, Quebec, with his wife and three sons and working as a baker. When he enlisted, Walter was 5' 8½" and had a dark complexion and dark brown hair and eyes. He had served with the Worcester Volunteers before immigrating to Canada.

On 27 September 1916 he embarked for England, arriving in Liverpool on 6 October 1916. The day of his arrival, he was appointed Acting Corporal. He was sent initially to Shoreham and was taken on strength by the 20th Battalion in January 1917. On 14 November 1917, he went overseas with the 42nd Battalion. At his request, he reverted to his permanent grade of private in order to go overseas. The day before embarking for the Western Front, he signed a will in favour of his wife, who was then living at 364 4th Avenue, Rosemount, in Montreal.

Walter spent little time actually on the Front; less than a month after arriving in France, he was wounded. On 4 December 1917, he was admitted to 58th Casualty Clearing Station with probably

an inflammation of connective tissue in his face.<sup>19</sup> On 11 December, he went to 8th Canadian Field Ambulance and from there to No 2 Stationary Hospital in Outreau, near Boulogne. On 29 January 1918, he was sent to Canadian Corps Reinforcement Camp and, at some point after that, returned to the Front.

Less than an month later, he was wounded again and admitted on 21 February 1918 to No 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station.<sup>20</sup> He died two days later of general peritonitis. His death was first reported as being due to “suspect corrosive poisoning.”<sup>21</sup> But a month later, the definitive cause of death was given as “Ac[ute] Inf[lamation], Stomach (phlegmonous).”<sup>22</sup> This was probably also known as gangrene of the stomach and may have been caused by a corrosive poisoning, which damaged the stomach lining and caused it to perforate.

Walter was a member of the Church of England and was buried on 24 February in Barlin Cemetery (Plot 3, Row E, Grave 40) with the Canadian Forces chaplain, G. C. d’Easum, presiding.<sup>23</sup>

Barlin is about 11 kilometres south-west of Bethune in northern France. The extension of the military cemetery was begun by French troops in October 1914 and, when the French moved south in March 1916, Commonwealth forces took over the cemetery. Under enemy shelling, the nearby hospital was moved back, but in the spring of 1918, the extension was used again during the German advance on this front. The extension contains 1,095 Commonwealth Great War burials.<sup>24</sup>

Two next of kin were identified in his records and letters were sent to his wife Amy in Montreal and his sister, Mrs J. Collins, who was living at 42 Lowell Street in Worcester. Walter’s sister Sarah Ann had married John Collins in 1899 in Worcester and, in 1911, they were living at 12 Brickfields Road, Astwood, Worcester with their five children. It is not clear what became of Walter’s parents and other siblings after 1901.

In 1921, Walter’s wife was living in King Street in Huntingdon on a soldier’s allowance.<sup>25</sup> Her eldest son was working as a bread deliverer. Amy died in 1968 and is buried in the Huntingdon Protestant Cemetery in Huntingdon.<sup>26</sup> Two of her sons were also buried in this cemetery— Harold in 1990<sup>27</sup> and Reginald Walter in 1994.<sup>28</sup> Ivor Daniel died in 1986 and was buried in Saint James Anglican Cemetery in Ormstown, Quebec.<sup>29</sup>

© 2016 BIFHSGO

---

<sup>1</sup> “Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/search.aspx>; accessed 25 August 2016) entry for Walter Daniel, RG 150, Accession 1992–93/166, Box 2288–32, Item number: 346638, Digitized service file - PDF format: B2288-S032

<sup>2</sup> “1891 England Census,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 31 August 2016), entry for Walter Daniels [*sic*], Registration district: Droitwich, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 7, Piece: 2342, Folio: 93, Page: 21

<sup>3</sup> “Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/search.aspx>; accessed 25 August 2016) entry for Walter Daniel

<sup>4</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org); accessed 3 December 2016), entry for Daniel, Walter, Service No: 841200

<sup>5</sup> “1901 England Census,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 18 September 2016), entry for Walter Daniels [*sic*], Registration district: Droitwich, Sub-registration district: Ombersley, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 15, Piece: 2794, Folio: 180, Page: 18, Household schedule number: 136

- 
- <sup>6</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk) : accessed 31 August 2016), entry for Walter Daniels [sic]
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 18 September 2016), entry for Walter Daniels [sic]
- <sup>9</sup> "UK, Railway Employment Records, 1833–1956," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 25 August 2016), entry for Walter Daniel, Description: No.2 1859–1902 Worcester Division
- <sup>10</sup> "1911 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 25 August 2016), entry for Watter [sic] Daniel, Province: Quebec, District: Hintingdon [sic] , District number: 161, Sub-district: 24 - Huntingdon, Sub-district number: 24
- <sup>11</sup> "England, Select Marriages, 1538–1973," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 18 September 2016), entry for Amy Bunce, FHL film number: 1040485, Reference ID: v 7 p 202
- <sup>12</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 17 December 2016), entry for Herbert Harold Daniel, Registration district: Droitwich, Inferred county: Worcestershire, Volume: 76ca, Page: 323
- <sup>13</sup> "Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865–1935," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 25 August 2016), entry for Walter Daniel
- <sup>14</sup> "Canadian Passenger Lists, 1865–1935," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 August 2016), entry for H H Daniel
- <sup>15</sup> "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 26 August 2016), entry for Reginald Walter Daniel. This record was mistranscribed as a burial record when it is certainly a baptismal record.
- <sup>16</sup> "1911 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 25 August 2016), entry for Watter [sic] Daniel
- <sup>17</sup> "Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621–1968," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 26 August 2016), entry for Daniel, Event: Baptism
- <sup>18</sup> "Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/search.aspx>: accessed 25 August 2016) entry for Walter Daniel. Unless otherwise specified, all information about Walter's military service comes from this source.
- <sup>19</sup> His injury was described as "I ct face." This probably means inflammation of connective tissue in his face. ("Common British Army acronyms and abbreviations of the First World War," *The Long, Long Trail* (<http://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/soldiers/a-soldiers-life-1914-1918/common-british-army-acronyms-and-abbreviations-of-the-first-world-war/>: accessed 18 September 2016))
- <sup>20</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 5 July 2016), entry for Daniel, W.
- <sup>21</sup> "Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/first-world-war-1914-1918-cef/Pages/search.aspx>: accessed 25 August 2016) entry for Walter Daniel
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>23</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 5 July 2016), entry for Daniel, W.
- <sup>24</sup> "Barlin Communal Cemetery Extension," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/>: accessed 16 August 2016)
- <sup>25</sup> "1921 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 18 September 2016), entry for Amy Daniel, Province or territory: Quebec, District: Chateauguay-Huntingdon, District number: 160, Sub-District: Huntingdon (Town), Sub-district number: 33, City, Town or Village: Huntingdon
- <sup>26</sup> "Canada, Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 26 August 2016), entry for Amy Daniel

---

<sup>27</sup> "Canada, Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 18 September 2016), entry for Harold Daniel

<sup>28</sup> "Canada, Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 10 October 2016), entry for Reginald Walter Daniel

<sup>29</sup> "Canada, Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 26 August 2016), entry for Ivor A Daniel