

**Private Pasquale Anile©**  
**Regimental number: 3130045**  
**18th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force**

**born: 22 June 1893 – died: 18 January 1919**

Private Pasquale Anile (known as Patsy) was born on 22 June 1893 in Italy.<sup>1</sup> His parents, Guiseppi and Maria Anile,<sup>2</sup> apparently remained in Italy when Patsy came to Canada. At the beginning of the Great War, his parents were living at 28 Camporeale, Trapani, in Sicily, but Patsy was living at 88 Glengarry Avenue, Windsor, Ontario.<sup>3</sup>

Patsy enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in London, Ontario, on 16 November 1917.<sup>4</sup> He was a labourer, 5' 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" tall and had a dark complexion, brown eyes and black hair.

Patsy left Canada on the SS *Grampian* on 7 February 1918, arriving in England nine days later. He was sent to the 4th Canadian Reserve Battalion at Camp Bramshott—a Canadian army camp in Hampshire, England. He joined the 18th Battalion on 10 May 1918 and arrived in Etaples, France, the following day.

Unfortunately, Patsy's time on the Western Front was shortened by illness. On 9 August 1918, he was diagnosed with pyrexia of unknown origin, also known as trench fever. He was hospitalized at No. 3 Canadian General Hospital in Boulogne-sur-Mer. He likely did not return to his unit before he was diagnosed with scabies on 9 September and admitted to No. 25 General Hospital in Hardelot, near Boulogne. He bounced back and forth between hospital and a convalescent depot until he was sent to St Martin's rest camp in early November. He probably did not return to his unit until 23 December.

In late December 1918, the 18th Battalion was stationed in Allner, about 25 kilometres west of Bonn, Germany. When Patsy returned to his unit in December, it was engaged in training. Two days later was Christmas Day, which "... dawned bright and clear, with just a touch of snow upon the ground, which gave the vicinity a very "Christmas-like" appearance. The members of the Battalion were in excellent spirit and thoroughly prepared for anything the day might bring forth. The Officers of the Battalion had made every preparation for a fine Christmas Dinner and the men were awaiting it with a very keen anticipation. . . . The tables were loaded with Apples, Oranges, Nuts, Ginger-ale, Cakes, etc. and from the serving tables in the rear came most appetizing odours of Turkey, meats, vegetables, Christmas Plum pudding and other items to be served as the dinner progressed. The men took . . . what was to be their first Christmas dinner and also, in all probability their last one in German Territory. . . . Lt.-Col Jones made a short speech of good will wishing members of the Battalion a "Very Merry Christmas" and every prosperity for the coming year, which as he remarked would be the one year that would never be forgotten by any one present or by the world in its entirety, being the Anniversary Year of the Ending of the War."<sup>5</sup>

There would not be prosperity for Patsy in the new year, but it would be a year that his family would never forget. The war diary notes that on 1 January one Other Rank was admitted to hospital. This was probably Patsy, who had a fever and was taken to the 4th Canadian Field Ambulance. The following day he was admitted to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station and was diagnosed with influenza and pneumonia.<sup>6</sup> He died just over two weeks later.<sup>7</sup> He died on 18 January and was buried on 21 January in Poppelsdorfer Cemetery in Bonn (Grave No. 1, Plot B, Row A) with the Canadian chaplain, J. P. Fallon, presiding.

The CCCS war diary notes that “January has been a month of steady medical work mostly influenza with in very many cases bronco pneumonia. . . . All burials were conducted as Military Funerals with gun carriage, etc.”<sup>8</sup>

The chaplain notified Patsy’s mother, who was his next of kin, of his death. He also noted that “As many Canadian units have already left this area, the Office of the Camp Commandant, Bonn, states that it will see to the erection of crosses.” The cemetery authorities were also notified.

Some time later, his body was exhumed and his remains buried in the Brussels Town cemetery (Grave reference: Plot X, Row 9, Grave 5).<sup>9</sup> Brussels Town Cemetery is located in the north east corner of Brussels, Belgium. Brussels was occupied by the Germans from August 1914 to the end of the Great War. There are only 54 Commonwealth Great War graves, which include the graves of 50 prisoners of war whose bodies were brought back from Germany by the Canadian Corps in April 1919.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> “Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca>: accessed 13 December 2016) entry for Anile, Patsy, Reference: RG 150, Accession 1992-93/166, Box 191–5, Item number: 10777, Digitized service file - PDF format: B0191-S005

<sup>2</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org): accessed 3 December 2016), entry for Anile, Pasquale, Service No: 3130045

<sup>3</sup> “Service Files of the First World War, 1914–1918 - CEF,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca>: accessed 13 December 2016) entry for Anile, Patsy

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* Unless otherwise stated, all information about Patsy’s military service comes from this source.

<sup>5</sup> “War Diaries - 18th Battalion, Canadian Infantry,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca>: accessed 14 December 2016), Former archival reference no.: RG9-III-D-3, Volume: 4926 File Part 2, Textual records: Microfilm reel T-10722

<sup>6</sup> The No. 1 CCCS chaplains’ war diaries indicate that he was admitted on 12 January; however, his army service record indicates that he was admitted on 2 January.

<sup>7</sup> “No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 13 December 2016), entry for Anile, P

<sup>8</sup> “War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31,” *Library and Archives Canada* ([http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202\\_e.html&r=1&f=G](http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G): accessed 23 November 2014)

<sup>9</sup> “Canada, War Graves Registers (Circumstances of Casualty), 1914–1948,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 13 December 2016), entry for Patsy Anile, Service number: 3130045

<sup>10</sup> “Brussels Town Cemetery,” *Commonwealth War Grave Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/>: accessed 22 November 2016)