

# Durrington Cemetery

## War Graves



*Lest we Forget*

### World War I



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 159<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 1916. He was living at Charlton, Ontario & was a Clerk. His religion was Roman Catholic & he belonged to 97<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1918 so that he could re-enlist on 18<sup>th</sup> 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 died of wounds on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1918 in England.

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 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1918. His death is acknowledged by Commonwealth War Graves Commission & as such he has a CWGC headstone.

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



*(Photo by Ian King- 2010)*

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

