

POSTCARD



**Private Charles Edward Kelly
1892-1933**



Address

A Hero Lived Here

140 Carroll Street

Ingersoll, ON

N5C 1W2

OBITUARY

CHARLES KELLY

One of the stars of the Ingersoll baseball team for years and an athlete proficient in other realms of sport, Charles Kelly, passed away at the family residence, 140 Carroll Street, on Friday afternoon, April 28th. Deceased had been ill for some time, but was only confined to his bed for short periods up until the last week.

Deceased who was in his 40th year had been a lifelong resident of Ingersoll. He enlisted with the 168th Battalion and served overseas with the Canadian forces during the Great War. He had the distinction of pitching for the Canadian Army team in an exhibition game played before King George while he was overseas.

Besides his widow, he leaves three sons, Charles, Jr.; Patrick, and Lloyd also one daughter, Reita. A brother, Fred Kelly, London, also survives, as does his mother.

He was buried with full military honors, the funeral being held from the family residence, 140 Carroll street, on Monday afternoon, where service was conducted at 3 o'clock.

Ingersoll Tribune
April 1933

Private Charles Edward Kelly was born on 29 August 1892 in Ingersoll, Ontario, one of two sons to Arabella Henderson and Charles Henry Kelly. As a child he displayed a natural athleticism. When he enlisted in the 168th Battalion on 2 February 1916, he listed his occupation as "athlete." Besides the infantry training that the soldiers did, they also played sports to provide exercise and entertainment. Here Private Kelly's baseball abilities caught the eye of officers. He was recruited for the Canadian Forestry Corps team to play in a small Canadian league in England. Kelly became their stand-out pitcher. On 8 October 1918, Private Kelly finally had his chance to contribute more substantially to the war effort. He was transferred to the Canadian Forestry Corps. This company was composed largely of Black soldiers. Its role was to repair and improve airfields for the Royal Air Force (RAF) in France and Belgium. It was the last Canadian Expeditionary Force unit to leave Germany, doing so in late March 1919. Back in Canada, Charles would become the star pitcher for the Ingersoll baseball team. His career was cut short by illness. He died suddenly at his residence in 1933 and is interred in Ingersoll Rural Cemetery.

In partnership, Oxford County Library and Ingersoll Cheese & Agricultural Museum recognize the service of Ingersoll veterans.

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