

Corporal A. Brereton, VC



8th Battalion (Winnipeg Rifles)



Alexander Picton Brereton was born in Oak River, Manitoba on 13 November 1892. During the First World War he served with the 8th Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force.

On 9 August 1918, near Warvillers in France, Corporal Brereton's platoon suddenly came under fire from six German machine guns while in an exposed position. Brereton immediately charged one of the machine guns on his own, shooting one member of the crew, bayoneting another, and compelling nine other enemy soldiers to surrender. The rest of the platoon, inspired by his example, assaulted and captured the five remaining machine gun positions. For his actions on this day, Corporal Brereton was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Brereton died in Calgary, Alberta on 11 June 1976.

Citation

