

Private H. Brown, VC



10th Battalion (Winnipeg Light Infantry)



Harry Brown was born in Gananoque, Ontario on 11 May 1898. During the First World War he served with the 10th Infantry Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force.

On 16 August 1917, elements of Private Brown's battalion had advanced to a position around Hill 70, near Lens in France. Holding in the face of repeated German counter-attacks, the force found itself with its right flank exposed and all communications to the rear cut. Brown and another soldier were given the task of breaking through enemy lines to reach battalion headquarters in the rear to request reinforcements. While making their way to the rear through an intense barrage, Brown's arm was shattered and his companion was killed. Nevertheless, he persevered until he arrived at the close support lines where he found an officer. Brown was so weakened that he fell down the steps to the dugout, but remained conscious long enough to communicate the message. He then passed out and was taken to a dressing station where he died

