

VETERAN OF THE WEEK

(17-23 September, 2023)

472091 Lance Sergeant Richard Martin La Hue
65th & 46th Battalions, Canadian Expeditionary Force
First World War



Photo: L/Sgt. Richard M. La Hue. Courtesy of the East End Military Museum.

Richard Martin La Hue was born on the 9th of April 1892 in La Compton, Kansas, United States of America. He was a farmer by trade and enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force on the 1st of June 1915 in Wadena, Saskatchewan. Richard left Canada for duty in the United Kingdom on the 18th of June 1916 aboard the troopship the S.S. Empress of Britain. Upon arrival he was appointed to the rank of Lance Corporal and towards the end June he was transferred from the 65th Battalion to the 46th Battalion. On the 10th of August that year he proceeded to France to serve on the Western Front. Richard arrived in Le Harve, France the next day. Fourteen days later he would be wounded in action for the first time, having suffered shrapnel wounds to his right ear and head (scalp) while serving near Ypres, Belgium. He would be invalided back to England for further treatment of his head wounds, while there he got married to his wife, Margaret Maud Broley (early 1917). He also would spend time in hospital for “Disordered Action of the Heart” a euphemism for what we now call PTSD. Richard returned to his unit and the Western Front in early June of 1917. Richard would be wounded in action a second time, this time via a gas shell (27/28 September 1918). He would return to his unit after the Armistice on 17th of November 1918 and would participate in occupation duties. Richard sailed home to Canada on the 6th of March 1919 aboard the S.S. Cassandra, arriving at St. John, Newfoundland. From there he traveled back to Regina, Saskatchewan where on the 27th of March 1919 he was discharged from the Canadian Expeditionary Force via reason of Demobilization. Richard passed away in 1970 at the Shaughnessy Hospital in Vancouver, BC. Thank You for your service, Lance Sergeant Richard Martin La Hue.