

Name: Alice Nettleton

Alice Nettleton VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment)

1897 - 1918

Not on LAC site, nothing CWGC site. – J Sargeant 2 Sept 2010.



Alice Annie Nettleton VAD was a member of the Voluntary Aid Detachment and had gone to Oyen Alberta to teach. While there influenza broke out in the community and she assisted with patients at Cereal. She succumbed to the flu and died on the 20 November 1919. One of her student's parents accompanied her body to Strathroy where she was laid to rest in the Strathroy Cemetery. Her inclusion on the cenotaph illustrates that not only soldiers died as a result of the conflict but those supporting them paid the price too.

22 Nov 1918 Globe and Mail

NETTLETON—On Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1918, at the Isolation Hospital, Cereal, Alberta, Alice Annie Nettleton, V.A.D., younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs Wm. Nettleton of Glenholme, Strathroy, aged 24 years, died while actively engaged in patriotic work, being a member of St. John's Ambulance Brigade, Lord Kitchener Division, London, Ont.

Interment in Strathroy about Nov. 27th.



28 November 1918

Strathroy Age

Death of Miss Alice A Nettleton, V.A.D. Untimely, Yet Glorious Ending

To Life of Self-Sacrificing Strathroy Girl, who passes out While Nursing Influenza Patients on the Prairie—Funeral from Family Residence to Strathroy Cemetery This Thursday afternoon.

While ministering to the sick stricken by the terrible influenza now raging throughout the West, Alice Annie Nettleton, V.A.D., younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Nettleton, "Glenholme" Strathroy, fell a victim to that dread disease and passed away at the emergency hospital at Cereal, Alberta on Wednesday Nov 20.

Miss Nettleton was born at "Orchard Lodge" Adelaide, where her young girlhood was spent. There, in the rural school on the old homestead, she received her primary education, and in the little Presbyterian Church and Sunday school close by, learned of those great truths, which actuated her life. When she was twelve years old, the family moved to their present home, Glenholme Strathroy. She was an honour graduate of the Strathroy Collegiate Institute, and later attended the Toronto Conservatory of Music. She was possessed of a brave and strong ambition, inherited from her father's pioneer ancestry, belonging to one of the oldest families in Adelaide and also from her maternal Ryerson U.E. Loyalist stock of Simcoe. Hence she had an ardent love for home and country, and ever since the outbreak of the war, devoted much of her time to patriotic work. She was a member of the Mary Armstrong Chapter of the I.O.D.E. and took the V.A.D. course in London last winter, becoming a member of St John Ambulance Brigade.

Though still a girl in her teens, she showed an unusual strength of character when she forsook the comforts of home, that she might serve in response to the Macedonian cry from the West for teachers to take the place of the boys gone to the war. She along with her two friends, Misses Gwendolyn and Marjorie DeCou, last spring hastened to the West and Miss Nettleton was located at Oyen, Alberta. In her little school on the prairie she proved faithful to her trust, had splendid success, and was happy in her work. But she bent her efforts beyond her class-room when she assisted in a little church and Sunday school in the community in which she served as organist. And when the school was closed on account of influenza, she immediately turned to nursing sufferers in the emergency hospital at Cereal, a little town nearby.

It was while engaged in this self-sacrificing work that she contracted the disease, to which she succumbed after only three days illness. She leaves besides her parents, one sister Mary D, at home and two brothers Fred A. and William R. of Adelaide.

The funeral will be held at 3 o'clock this Thursday afternoon, from the family residence "Glenholme", Kitredge Ave, to Strathroy Cemetery. The floral tokens which embower the casket are numerous and beautiful, many remembrances coming from friends and organizations out West, all evidencing the high regard in which the deceased was held.



Strathroy Cemetery
1892 Survey Lot 344 Grave 7