

# BOVAIR, THOMAS HENRY

## EARLY LIFE

**Nov 19, 1889**

Born in Eversley, Ontario to Thomas Peter and Elizabeth (Scott) Bovair. He was the older brother of **Arthur Bovair**.

**1891 Census**

Age 1

Lived in King, Ontario with Peter Bovair (head of house – father, age 28), Eliza Bovair (mother, age 33) and Emma Bovair (sister, age 3).

**1901 Census**

Age 11

Lived in King, Ontario with Thomas Bovair (head of house – father, age 38), Eliza Bovair (mother, age 42), Emma Bovair (sister, age 13), Thomas Bovair (brother, age 11), John Bovair (brother, age 8), Elsie Bovair (sister, age 6), Arthur Bovair (brother, age 4) and Jessie Bovair (sister, age 2).

**1911 Census**

Age 17

Lived in King, Ontario with Thomas Bovair who was the head of house (father, age 48), Eliza Bovair (mother, age 52), Scott Bovair (brother, age 18), Elsie Bovair (sister, age 16), Arthur Bovair (brother, age 14) and Jessie Bovair (sister, age 12).

## MILITARY SERVICE

**Jan 18, 1916**

Attested to the 127<sup>th</sup> York Rangers, Overseas Battalion, Canadian Over-seas Expeditionary Force

**Attestation  
Paper**

- **Number:** 778366
- **Present address:** Eversley, Ontario
- **Next of kin given:** Mrs. Elizabeth Bovair (Mother) at R.R. #3 King, Ontario
- **Trade or Calling:** Farmer
- **Married:** No
- **Previous Military Experience:** Yes – 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment, York Rangers
- **Religion:** Presbyterian
- **Physical attributes:**
  - **Age:** 25
  - **Height:** 5'10"
  - **Complexion:** Ruddy
  - **Eyes:** Grey
  - **Hair:** Medium

**Aug 21, 1916**

Age 26

Departed Canada through Halifax.

**Aug 30, 1916**

Age 26

Arrived in Liverpool, England.

**Jan 13, 1917**

Age 27

Landed in Havre, France.

**Oct 14, 1917**

Age 27

Promoted to Corporal.

**May 21, 1918**

Age 28

Gunshot wound in left chest and ribs. Thomas was in the hospital until July 12, 1918. Upon his discharge from the hospital it was noted that: "wounds not completely healed, ribs united, has a slight cough. Spits no blood, feels very weak in legs, especially when walking".

**AFTER THE WAR**

**1921 Census**

Age 31

Worked as a farmer and lived in King, Ontario with Thomas Bovair (head of house – father, age 58), Eliza Bovair (mother, age 62), Jessie Bovair (sister, age 22), Arthur Bovair (brother, age 25), Florence Bovair (sister-in-law, age 26), Jean Cairns (age 27), Murray Sider (labourer, age 17), Thomas O’Dell (labourer, age 43), Alexander Rennie (painter, age 55), John McCathy (labourer, age 48), William Boyd (labourer, age 20), W.E. Lollier (labourer, age 51), Joseph Ferguson (labourer, age 38), William Vernon (labourer, age 24), E.W. Shuter (labourer, age 42) and Thomas Steele (engineer, age 31).

**Sep 19, 1928**

Age 38

Married Emily May Meiklejohn (age 39), daughter of William and Mary Elizabeth (Harrison) Meiklejohn.

**Mar 5, 1962**

Age 73

Thomas died in Aurora, Ontario.

**IN THE NEWS**

**Aurora Boys Wounded**

The Toronto Star

Friday, April 19, 1918

## AURORA BOYS OF THE 127TH, WOUNDED

A great deal of anxiety and distress has been caused the parents and friends of Sapper Chas. G. Brooks and Sapper Roy Wells, by the reports in Saturday's Toronto papers that these young men had been killed in action in France, when such was not the case.

Sapper Brooks' parents received word on Friday that their son, Charles Gilbert, had been admitted to No. 9 General hospital, Rouen, on March 21st, suffering from gunshot wound in right leg. Sapper Brooks, along with his brother, Lce-Cpl. Geo. Brookes enlisted in December, 1915, with the Aurora company of the 127th Battalion, crossed to England in Aug. 1916, and landed in France in January, 1917. He was born at Hackney, London, England, coming to Canada when a lad. He was 20 years of age.

Sapper W. A. Westbeare of former resident of King Township, where his mother and brother at present reside. So far as can be learned they have received no notification of his being wounded. He enlisted in the West and was transferred to the 127th Battalion.

Sapper W. A. Westbeare of the Aurora company of the 127th has also been reported as wounded. Before enlisting he was employed at the T. Sisman Shoe Co.

Lce-Cpl. T. H. Bovair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bovair, of King Township, has been reported wounded. The official notification to his parents states that he was admitted to No. 6 hospital, France, on April 1st suffering from gunshot wound in the side. A later cable from a private source states that the wound is not dangerous and he is progressing favorably. Lce-Corpl. Bovair enlisted with the King platoon of the 127th Battn.

Word was received here on Thursday evening that Sergt. A. J. Vincent, was officially reported as missing since March 24th. Sergt. Vincent enlisted with the Aurora company of the 127th and had charge of the bugle band of the battalion. After going to France he has been acting as despatch rider. His wife and two children reside with Mrs. Vincent's mother, Mrs. Hodgins of Temperance

Street.