

GILLHAM, HARPER CAUFIELD



Ancestry

EARLY LIFE

Oct 19, 1890

Born in King, Ontario to Mark and Matilda (Hollingshead) Gillham. He was the older brother of **Mark Gillham** and cousin to **Harry Gillham** (their fathers were brothers).

1891 Census

6 months

Lived in King, Ontario with Mark Gillham (head of house – father, age 31), Matilda Gillham (mother, age 29) and Ben German (boarder, age 20).

1901 Census

Age 10

Lived in King, Ontario with Mark Gillham (head of house – father, age 42), Matilda Gillham (mother, age 38), Stella Gillham (sister, age 9), Susannah Gillham (sister, age 6) and Mark Gillham (brother, age 3).

1911 Census

Age 20

Lived in King, Ontario with Mark Gillham (head of house – father, age 53), Matilda Gillham (mother, age 49), Stella Gillham (sister, age 19), Susannah Gillham (sister, age 17) and Mark Gillham (brother, age 13).

MILITARY SERVICE

May 29, 1914

Attested to the 8th Canadian Mounted Rifles, Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force

**Attestation
Paper**

- **Number:** 8384
- **Present address:** Aurora, Ontario
- **Next of kin given:** Mr. Mark Gillham (Father) in Aurora, Ontario
- **Trade or calling:** Clerk
- **Married:** No
- **Previous military experience:** No
- **Religion:** Church of England
- **Physical attributes:**
 - **Age:** 23 years
 - **Height:** 5'9"
 - **Complexion:** Dark
 - **Eyes:** Hazel
 - **Hair:** Dark Brown
 - **Distinctive marks:** Scar on back of head

Jul 15, 1916

Age 25

Departed Canada through Halifax.

Jul 25, 1916

Age 25

Arrived in Liverpool, England.

Sep 7, 1916

Age 25

Admitted to hospital for gastroenteritis.

Apr 9, 1917

Age 26

Wounded in Vimy, France: "a fragment of shell struck the left arm at the upper third posterior and produced a superficial wound".

Jul 18, 1917

Age 26

Awarded **Military Cross** (distinguished and meritorious services in battle).

Sep 9, 1918

Age 27

Gunshot wound in the right thigh. The injury was sustained in France.

May 28, 1919

Age 28

Lieutenant Harper Gillham was discharged because of demobilization. He served with the 8th Canadian Mounted Rifles, 93rd Battalion, 20th Battalion, 1st Central Ontario Regiment Depot, Manitoba Regiment Depot, 27th Battalion, 11th Reserve Battalion and 18th Reserve Battalion.

Jul 3, 1919

Age 28

Awarded **Military Medal** (individual or associated acts of bravery on the recommendation of a Commander in Chief in the field).

AFTER THE WAR

Jun 2, 1920

Age 29

Married Ada Victoria Gillespie (age 29), daughter of John and Mary (Wilmot) Gillespie of Kingston, Ontario. They were married in Ottawa, Ontario. At the time of the wedding, Harper worked in wholesale clothing and Ada was a nurse.

1921 Census

Age 30

Lived at 232 Cooper Street, Apartment 2 in Ottawa, Ontario with Ada Gillham (wife, age 31). Harper worked as an accountant.

Sep 12, 1953

Age 62

Harper died in Ottawa, Ontario.

IN THE NEWS

Military Cross

The Globe and Mail

Friday, July 20, 1917 pg. 2

**MILITARY CROSS
FOR CANADIANS**

More Soldiers in France Distinguish Themselves by Bravery on Field

(Canadian Associated Cable.)
London, July 19.—The following Canadians are gazetted:
Military Cross.

Lieut. Harper Caulfield Gillham and his platoon held up at great risk and led his party and succeeded in silencing a gun, was wounded, but remained with men.

MILITARY AND DEFENCE FORCES LIST

GILLHAM, Harper Canfield (Lieut. P.L.D.G.)
The War of 1914-21. France and Belgium 6/10/16 to 13/4/17; 24/4/18 to 12/10/18. Wounded twice. British War Medal, Victory Medal, MC.

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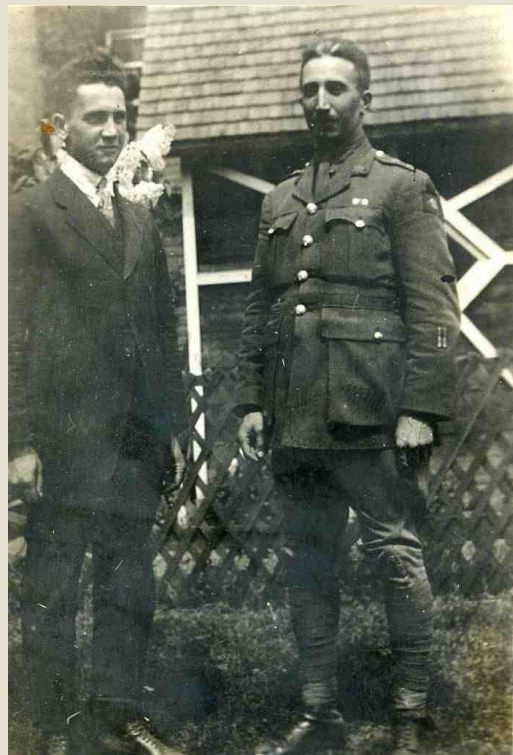
PHOTOS

Harper Gillham



Ancestry

Mark Gillham (L) and Harper Gillham (R)



Ancestry

Ada and Harper Gillham



Ancestry

Harper and Ada at Hogsback Falls Park in Ottawa



Ancestry