

Missing In America Project

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After Action Report National Field of Honour Pointe-Claire, Quebec, Canada 5/2/2024

On April 14, 2024, Sgt. Howard Martin Ryan reached his final resting place, a niche at Canada's Field of Honour.

He was born July 27, 1892, in Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada, and died April 12, 1937, in Seattle, WA. His cremains were found and identified in a Seattle cemetery storage unit.

Sgt. Ryan served in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) in WWI. Since he was not a U.S. citizen when he served he is not eligible for inurnment at our National or State Veterans Cemeteries.

WA volunteer Jim deLucia contacted Canada's Last Post Fund to see if Sgt. Ryan would qualify for inurnment at their Field of Honour. The Last Post Fund's mission is to ensure that no Veteran is denied a dignified funeral and burial, as well as a military gravestone, due to insufficient funds at the time of death. Jim provided the necessary documentation and on February 26th he received notification that he did qualify. Due to budget issues they requested that shipment be delayed until April 1st. His cremains arrived at the Field of Honour on April 10th and he was placed on April 16th.

Two of WA MIAP volunteers have ancestors that served in the CEF. We decided that we would do what we could to take care of Sgt. Ryan because it's the right thing to do.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Keating Washington State Coordinator