



Private Gerald Hulan (*Huelin* in the 1911 Census) (Regimental Number 3764) is buried in the Forest Road Anglican Cemetery in St. John's, in the Naval and Military Plot.

His occupation prior to military service recorded as that of a *fisherman* earning an annual three-hundred dollars, Gerald Hulan was a volunteer of the Fifteenth Recruitment Draft. He presented himself for medical examination on May 11, 1917, at the *Church Lads Brigade Armoury** in St. John's, capital city of the Dominion of Newfoundland. It was a procedure which was to pronounce him as...*Fit for Foreign Service*.

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****The building was to serve as the Regimental Headquarters in Newfoundland for the duration of the conflict.***

It was to be on the day of that medical assessment, May 11, and at the same venue, that Gerald Hulan would enlist. He was thus engaged...***for the duration of the war****...at the daily private soldier's rate of a single dollar to which was to be appended a ten-cent per diem Field Allowance.

****At the outset of the War, perhaps because it was felt by the authorities that it would be a conflict of short duration, the recruits enlisted for only a single year. As the War progressed, however, this was obviously going to cause problems and the men were encouraged to re-enlist. Later recruits – as of or about May of 1916 - signed on for the 'Duration' at the time of their original enlistment.***

Only some few hours were now to follow before there then came to pass, while still at the **CLB Armoury** on Harvey Road, the final formality of his enlistment: attestation. On that same eleventh day of that month of May he pledged his allegiance to the reigning monarch, George V, whereupon, at that moment, Gerald Hulan became...***a soldier of the King.***

Following his enlistment it is likely that Private Hulan reported...***to duty...***to be quartered in the temporary barracks apparently established since 1915 in the St. John's curling rink and the **Prince's Skating Rink** in the eastern end of the city. It was also surely there where he would stay up until the time of his departure for medical attention.

(Right: ***This photograph of the Prince's Rink in St. John's with military personnel, apparently attired in uniforms of Great War vintage, on parade is from the Ice Hockey Wiki web-site.)***



When it was that Private Hulan was subsequently diagnosed as suffering from measles and then also pneumonia appears not to be recorded - nor does the date on which he was admitted into the Military Hospital for Infectious Diseases in St. John's - but it certainly cannot have been long after the day of his enlistment.

The son of fisherman Joseph Hulan and of Phoebe Catherine Jane Hulan (also ***Huelin***) of Crabbe's, Bay St. George, he was also brother of Ann M., Eva B., Catherine H., Amy L. and John R..

Private Hulan (***Huelin***) was reported as having...***died of pneumonia...***in the Military Hospital, St. John's, on the night of June 7-8, 1917.

A Captain Clayton officiated at his burial, a ceremony with full military honours, there being also in attendance a firing-party and the Church Lads Brigade Band.

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Gerald Hulan had enlisted at the *declared* age of nineteen years and four months: date of birth at Crabbe's, District of St. George, January 13, 1898 (from the 1911 Census of Newfoundland).

Private Hulan was entitled to no decorations although in 1920 his parents received a Memorial Scroll.

The above dossier has been researched, compiled and produced by Alistair Rice. Please email any suggested amendments or content revisions if desired to criceadam@yahoo.ca. Last updated – January 30, 2023.