



Private Chesley Garfield (elsewhere *Cheslie*) Ryan (Regimental Number 5690) is interred in 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, Chesley Ryan presented himself for medical examination and also enlisted at the Church Lads Brigade Armoury in St. John's on June 14, 1918* - engaged *for the duration of the war* at the private soldier's rate of \$1.10 per diem. He attested on the same day.

****In May of that year the Newfoundland Military Service Act (conscription) came into effect. From May 11 through to the end of the War the Department of Militia called a total of 1,470 men into active service.***

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Only five days after his enlistment, Private Ryan was admitted into the Barracks Hospital in the St. John's. No particular diagnosis seems to have been recorded on this occasion, but his case was apparently serious enough for him to remain there for a month as he was not released until July 19.

On August 29, Private Ryan was sent to Petty Harbour on *special duty*, returning from there to St. John's on September 14. Some two weeks later, he was once more admitted into the Barracks Hospital and thence, on October 2, to the General Hospital in St. John's. He was suffering from both tonsillitis and 'flu, and his condition was twice pronounced as being *serious*, on October 21 and 28.

On November 11, however, he was deemed to be *improving* and, four days later again, on the 15th, as being *convalescent*.

Unfortunately, things were about to take a turn for the worse: having been sent from the General Hospital back to the Barracks Hospital on December 16, it was then on Christmas Day, by now suffering from a *feverish cold*, that Private Ryan was admitted into the *Military Hospital for Infectious Diseases*.

There he was now diagnosed as having tubercular peritonitis. On January 2 of the New Year, 1919, he was forwarded once again to the General Hospital where the presence of meningitis was discovered.

The son of Thomas Ryan, fisherman, and Caroline Ryan (née *Rideout*) of Round Harbour in the District of Twillingate, he was the youngest brother of Thomas, of James-Adolphus, of Bertram, Henrietta, Amelia (*Minnie*), Stanley, Albert-Hetley and of Mary-Ann*.

Private Ryan was reported as having *died of sickness* in the St. John's General Hospital on January 9, 1919, suffering from both meningitis and tuberculosis.

**And also of Rosalie who died in 1892, aged six?*

His remains embalmed and coffined by Mr. J.C. Oke, undertaker, he was buried with full military honours, a bugle and firing party as well as a Guard of Honour comprised of officers and men of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Newfoundland Regiment. This was according to the wishes of his father: *Bury my son at St. John's in Church of England Cemetery.*

Chesley Ryan had enlisted at eighteen years of age.

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St. John's
Dec 9th 1918

Mr JJ OGrady

Dear Sir

I am dropping a line to you to send me down my money if you please I havent been payed for three months I cant as mutch as send a letter home to my people I am in need of it

yours truly
5690 Pte C Ryan
General Hospital
St. John's