

2nd Lieutenant Earl Henry Mulley[©]

Regimental number: —

40th Squadron, Royal Air Force

born: 6 June 1901–died: 30 October 1918

Earl Henry Mulley lied about his age in order to join the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) as a cadet on 21 August 1917; he said he was 19 years and 11 months old.¹ In fact, Earl was just over 16 when he joined up. He was born on 6 June 1901, the second child of Edmond Mulley and Mary Roney Dulea.² He was Edmond and Mary's second child, his sister Lillian Grace having been born in January 1899.³ Earl's father Edmond was born in Newfoundland in 1873; his mother Mary was born in the United States in 1875. Both were of Irish descent.⁴ They were married in Jackson, Michigan, on 9 April 1895⁵ before returning to Canada in 1898.⁶ The small family lived in the village of Norwich, Oxford County, in southwestern Ontario, where Edmond was a broom maker.⁷ By 1911, the family had grown considerably to include a brother, Wilfred Thomas, in 1903 and two more sisters, Edna and Eva, born in 1907 and 1910, respectively. Living with them also was Earl's paternal grandfather, Thomas Mulley, aged 76 at the time of the census. The family had also moved to the larger community of St. Catharines, Ontario,⁸ close to Lake Ontario.

When he joined the RFC in Toronto, Earl's attestation papers note that he had previous military experience with the 19th Regiment.⁹ Authorized as the 19th Battalion Volunteer Militia (Infantry) in 1863, the unit became known as the 19th St. Catharines Regiment on 8 May 1900 and was redesignated the 19th Lincoln Regiment on 2 November 1912.¹⁰ Earl's civilian employment was described as a book keeper for a company in Thorold, not far from St. Catharines.

Earl undertook initial training in Canada.¹¹ After arriving in England in February 1918, he was promoted from cadet to probationary 2nd lieutenant in April. In May he was assigned to the No. 4 Training Depot Station at Hooten Park in Cheshire¹² and was confirmed as a 2nd lieutenant on 6 May 1918. Although it appears that he was assigned to No. 2 (Reconnaissance) Squadron in June, Earl was reassigned to the Central Flying School near Upavon, Wiltshire¹³ on 3 September 1918 to be trained on the S.E.5, a biplane fighter aircraft.¹⁴ Earl was posted to No. 40 Squadron on 24 October 1918. Just six days later, on 30 October 1918, he was killed in a flying accident while on active service in France and was buried the following day in the Emerchicourt Communal Cemetery near Denain. His remains were later moved to Grave 15 at the Douai British Cemetery, in Cuincy, 30 km from Emerchicourt.¹⁵

In 1921 Earl's parents, Edmond and Mary, were living with his three younger siblings, Wilfred, Edna and Eva, at 29 Ambrose Street in St. Catharines,¹⁶ the home that Earl had shared with them before he signed up. No record could be found for the death of Earl's mother, but, by 1930, his father seems to have emigrated to the United States and was living in Wisconsin.¹⁷ In 1940 he petitioned for naturalization¹⁸ and by then had remarried because he was living with his second wife, Augusta (Gustie).¹⁹ Edmond died in 1958 and is buried in Mountain Cemetery, Oconto County, Wisconsin.²⁰ Augusta died in 1974 and is buried beside him.²¹

Earl's elder sister Lillian married George Harper Buchanan on 30 June 1917 with Earl as a witness.²² Lillian (who preferred to be called Grace as a married woman) and her husband lived in St. Catharines for the rest of their lives: George died in 1961, but Grace lived into the 1990s. Both are buried in the Victoria Lawn Cemetery in St. Catharines.²³ George and Grace had one son, John, born in 1924,²⁴ who emigrated to the United States, where he died in California in 2000.²⁵



**Grave marker for
2nd Lieut. E. H. Mulley**
Source: findagrave.com

Earl's brother Wilfred, a bookkeeper, married Corinne Paquette, a photographer and widow, in Windsor, Ontario, on 26 October 1929.²⁶ By 1935, they were living in Toronto where Wilfred was also working as a photographer.²⁷ Either Wilfred had passed away or he and Corinne were divorced because Corinne was living on her own in the Windsor area in 1963.²⁸ She was still living there in 1974.²⁹

Edna Mulley moved to Buffalo, New York as a student nurse at the Deaconess Hospital in 1929.³⁰ She married Jacob (Jack) Abraham Wolf (originally from Montreal, Quebec, but living in Buffalo) in Niagara Falls, Ontario, on 22 October 1933.³¹ Their daughter, Verona Joy, was born two years later.³² Jack served in the US Marines during World War II. He died in 1995 and was buried as a veteran in Willow Dale Cemetery in Bradford, Pennsylvania.³³ Edna lived in Buffalo until her death in 2005,³⁴ however, she chose to be buried in the Victoria Lawn Cemetery in her home town of St. Catharines. Her headstone is simply inscribed "Edna Mulley Wolf, 1907–2005, Daughter of Mary."³⁵

Earl's youngest sister Eva married Ralph Elmore Carbery in St. Catharines in 1934.³⁶ They had a son, who they named for her brother Earl; he was born in Toronto on 9 January 1935 but died tragically of an accidental gunshot wound on 22 November 1944.³⁷ Eva and Ralph also emigrated to the United States; they were divorced in Volusia, Florida, in 1951.³⁸ Eva married Glenn M. Erick in Eden, New York, in 1952.³⁹

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¹ "UK, Royal Air Force Airmen Records, 1918–1940," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 8 November 2018), entry for Earl Henry Milley [sic]

² "Ontario, Canada, Births, 1869–1913," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 15 May 2018), entry for Earl Henry Mulley

³ "Ontario, Canada, Births, 1869–1913," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Lillian Grace Mulley

⁴ "1901 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 15 May 2018), entry for Edmond Malley [sic] OK?, Province: Ontario, District: Oxford (south/sud), District number: 102, Sub-district: Norwich (village), Sub-district number: E-2

⁵ "Michigan, County Marriage Records, 1822–1940," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 12 November 2018), entry for Edmond Mulley

⁶ "1901 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 15 May 2018), entry for Edmond Malley [sic], Province: Ontario, District: Oxford (south/sud), District number: 102, Sub-district: Norwich (village), Sub-district number: E-2

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ "1911 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 15 May 2018), entry for Edmond Mulley, Province: Ontario, District number: 93 Lincoln, Sub-district: 9, Enumeration district: 2

⁹ "UK, Royal Air Force Airmen Records, 1918–1940," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 8 November 2018), entry for Earl Henry Milley [sic]

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- ¹⁰ "Guide to Sources Relating to the Canadian Militia (Infantry, Cavalry, Armored)," *Library and Archives Canada* (http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/Documents/RG9-58_EN-final.pdf: accessed 04 January 2019), entry for Ontario: The Lincoln Regiment, page 800
- ¹¹ "British Royal Air Force, Officers' Service Records 1912–1920," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk: accessed 11 November 2018), entry for Earl Henry Mulley. Unless otherwise specified, all information about his military career comes from this source.
- ¹² "RAF Hooton Park," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAF_Hooton_Park: accessed 29 December 2018)
- ¹³ "Central Flying School," *Wikipedia* (<https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/>: accessed 29 December 2018)
- ¹⁴ "Royal Aircraft Factory S.E.5," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Aircraft_Factory_S.E.5: accessed 29 December 2018)
- ¹⁵ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 15 May 2018), entry for Mulley, E.H.
- ¹⁶ "1921 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 13 January 2019), entry for Edmond Mulley, Province or territory: Ontario, District: Lincoln, District number: 100, Sub-district: St. Catharines (City), Sub-district number: 32, City, Town or Village: St. Catharines
- ¹⁷ "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Edmond Mulley, Publication title: Appleton, Wisconsin, City Directory, 1930
- ¹⁸ "Wisconsin, Federal Naturalization Records, 1848-1992," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Edmund Mulley [sic]
- ¹⁹ "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 3 February 2019), entry for Edmund Muelley I[sic], Publication title: Milwaukee, Wisconsin, City Directory, 1940; "1940 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 February 2019), entry for Edward [sic] Mulley
- ²⁰ "U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 February 2019), entry for Edmond Mulley
- ²¹ "U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 February 2019), entry for Augusta Mulley
- ²² "Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1826–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 13 January 2019), entry for Grace Lillian Malley [sic]
- ²³ "Canadian Headstones," (<https://canadianheadstones.com/search-item.html?psid=389503>: accessed 13 January 2019), entry for Grace Buchanan, and (<https://canadianheadstones.com/search-item.html?psid=389504>: accessed 13 January 2019) entry for George H. Buchanan
- ²⁴ "U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2007," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for John R. Buchanan, SSN: 607193428
- ²⁵ "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for John R. Buchanan, SSN: 607-19-3428
- ²⁶ "Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1826–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Wilfred Thomas Mulley
- ²⁷ "Canada, Voters Lists, 1935-1980," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Wilfred Mulley
- ²⁸ "Canada, Voters Lists, 1935–1980," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Corinne Mulley
- ²⁹ Ibid.
- ³⁰ "U.S., Border Crossings from Canada to U.S., 1895–1956," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Edna Marion Mulley
- ³¹ "Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1826–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Edna Marion Mulley
- ³² "1940 United States Federal Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 21 January 2019), entry for Jack Wolf

³³ "U.S., Find a Grave Index, 1600s–Current," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Jacob A. Wolf

³⁴ "U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Edna M. Wolf

³⁵ "Canadian Headstone Index, 1840–2017," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com; accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Edna Mulley Wolf

³⁶ "Ontario, Canada, Marriages, 1826–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Eva Dorothy Mulley

³⁷ "Ontario, Canada, Deaths and Deaths Overseas, 1869–1946," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Earl Thomas Carbery

³⁸ "Florida, Divorce Index, 1927–2001," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 November 2018), entry for Eva D. Carbery, Certificate No: 18568

³⁹ "New York State, Marriage Index, 1881–1967," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 January 2019), entry for Eva D Carberry, Certificate No: 737