

John McCrae



Born in Guelph, Ontario, Canadian poet, soldier, and physician John McCrae earned his undergraduate and medical degrees at the University of Toronto, where he received the Gold Medal. McCrae's well-known poem "In Flanders Fields" memorializes the April 1915 battle in Belgium's Ypres salient. For 17 days, McCrae tended those injured in the battle. The poem, written after the death of a close friend, was first published in *Punch* magazine and led to the adoption of the poppy as the Flower of Remembrance for the British and Commonwealth war dead.