

KNOWLES, W. K.

Walter Kay Knowles was born in North Carlton in 1894, the sixth child of James Knowles and Emily Kay. James arrived with his parents and sister in 1857 as assisted migrants from Somerset, England.

James died when Walter was nine years old and his mother continued the family monumental masonry business at their Lytton Street address, near the Melbourne General Cemetery.

Walter enlisted in Melbourne and served in France. Wounded in 1916 and again in 1917, he was evacuated and returned home to Melbourne.

Walter married Elsie Ada Arnold in 1922 and they had four children. By 1925 the family lived at 159 Nicholson Street, East Coburg.

Although he had used the middle name Kay for many years, Walter had been registered at birth only as Walter Knowles. In 1931 he formally changed his legal name.

Walter Kay Knowles died on 25 June 1949.

AIF Project Entry

Walter Kay KNOWLES

Regimental number	2174
Place of birth	North Carlton Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Monumental mason
Address	19 Lytton Street, Carlton, Victoria.
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	21
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Emily Knowles, 19 Lytton Street, Carlton, Victoria.
Enlistment date	10 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	23rd Battalion, 4th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/40/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A20 <i>Hororata</i> on 27 September 1915.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Sergeant
Unit from Nominal Roll	23rd Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 12 May 1918.
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Plaque in Victorian Garden of Remembrance

Discharge date	24 August 1918 - Melbourne, Victoria
Other details	Served 1142 days (1014 days of which were spent abroad)
Date of death	25 June 1949.

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Age (Melbourne, Vic. : 1854 - 1954), Friday 9 October 1931, p. 14.

I, WALTER KAY KNOWLES, of 19 Lytton-street, Carlton, in the State of Victoria, Monumental Mason, bearing according to a Certificate of Registration of my birth the name of Walter Knowles, hereby give public notice that on the eighth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, I formally and absolutely renounced, relinquished and ABANDONED the USE of my said NAMES, "Walter Knowles," and assumed and adopted and determined henceforth on all occasions whatsoever to use and subscribe the names of "WALTER KAY KNOWLES," instead of the said names of "Walter Knowles." And I give further notice that by a deed poll dated the eighth day of October, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, duly executed and attested I formally and absolutely renounced and abandoned the said names of "Walter Knowles," and declared that I had assumed and adopted and intended thenceforth upon all occasions and whatsoever to use and subscribe the names of "Walter Kay Knowles" instead of Walter Knowles, and so as to be at all times thereafter called, known and described by the names of "Walter Kay Knowles" exclusively.
Dated this eighth day of October, 1931.
WALTER KAY KNOWLES.
A. J. L. HAYES, LL.B., 422 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, Solicitor.

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Age (Melbourne, Vic. : 1854 - 1954), Monday 27 June 1949, p. 2.

KNOWLES.—On June 25, Walter Kay Knowles, 159 Nicholson-street, East Coburg, dearly beloved husband of Elsie, loved father of Shirley (Mrs. Weales), Loris (Mrs. Fletcher), Coral and Graeme, aged 55 years, 23rd Battalion, 1st A.I.F.

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NAA: B2455, KNOWLES W K, SERN 2174
BDM VIC