

# Cyril Ansell Evans

*Born 29 July 1893*

*Died 4 August 1918*

*Age 25*

*St. Paul's  
and the  
Great War  
"For King  
and Country"*



Cyril Ansell Evans was born at Halifax on 29 July 1893, the only son of Charles Augustus and Matilda Sophia Evans. He was baptized at St. Paul's on 24 September 1893 and was a member of St. Paul's Sunday School and on their Honour Roll. He studied at Dalhousie University, and served with the 66th Regiment Princess Louise Fusiliers. Evans enlisted in 1916 and was sent to the 80th Battalion Manitoba Regiment. Overseas in June 1916, this regiment's personnel were slowly absorbed by other units of the 4th Canadian Division; in July 1917 the 80th was disbanded. It appears that Lieutenant Evans was placed in various units for short periods of time.

In June 1918 he was sent to the 85th Battalion Nova Scotia Highlanders under the command of Colonel J. L. Ralston. In "a daring personal reconnaissance" Evans went behind enemy lines on the night of 30 July 1918 and was severely wounded by a stick bomb. When he did not return and could not be found by his soldiers, two officers went in to find him. According to Evans' family one of those officers was his Colonel, who brought him to safety. Less than two months after he had joined the 85th, Cyril Evans died of his wounds on 4 August 1918. After the Halifax Explosion destroyed the south-west window near the Baptistry, Charles Evans received permission to erect a new stained glass window in memory of his son. Evans died of a heart attack before it arrived. His widow asked Colonel Ralston to come to Halifax in 1922 to unveil the image of an angel and a young knight. The window holds the inscription "Be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a crown of life". Members of the disbanded 85th Battalion marched through the streets of Halifax in civilian dress to take part in the service at St. Paul's.



Lieut.-Col J.L. Ralston, C.M.G., D.S.O.