

James MacDonald

Isle of Wight County Press – 31 March 1917

NEWPORT

MILITARY FUNERAL. – The funeral took place, with military honours on Wednesday, of Sergt. James Macdonald, Hants Regiment, aged 46, whose death occurred suddenly from heart failure at Sutton Veny, Near Warminster, on the previous Thursday. Deceased had served for 12 years in the Scottish Rifles, and joined up for war service soon after the outbreak of hostilities; he was employed by the Newport Gas Company at the time. He was a very useful and reliable worker, and was formerly employed in connection with the installation of the rotary printing plant of the County Press Company. He resided at Orchard-street, where he leaves a widow, for whom much sympathy is felt. The widow and other personal friends, and two sergeants from his battalion, were the principal mourners. The coffin, covered by the Union Jack and with regimental and other floral tributes was borne on a gun-carriage, and the Royal Warwickshire Band, escort, and firing party also attended. The first part of the service was at St. Thomas's Church and the interment at the Cemetery, the Rev. J. L. Spratt officiating. The "last post" was sounded and three volleys fired over the grave. In addition to the personal tributes, there were two floral souvenirs from the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the 34th Training (Reserve) Battalion and another from Staff-Sergt. and Mrs. Ratcliffe. Mr. H. W. Parnell efficiently carried out the funeral arrangements.

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