



Biography of Lieutenant Ebenezer (Eb) Crute

**Instructor – 6th Field Company Canadian Engineers Cadet Corps
and
#1840 – North Vancouver Junior High Schools (Ridgeway) Cadet Corps**

Lieutenant Crute was born on 3 December 1883 in Sunterland, a city in the north east of England. He moved to Vancouver B.C. with his mother when he was a young man and attended McGill University. World War 1 broke out and on the 5th March 1915, Lieutenant Crute joined the Canadian Army. He was taken on strength with the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry on 16 July 1915, quickly rising to the rank of sergeant. While overseas in France, Lieutenant Crute met his future wife Caroline Augustine Maze. At the end of WW 1 he took his discharge, settled back in Vancouver and was married on 31 July 1919. He then entered the Provincial Normal School and obtained his certificate as a Teacher and Physical Education Instructor. Following graduation, Lieutenant Crute and his wife made their home in North Vancouver where he began his career as a teacher, first at Capilano Elementary School and then Lonsdale Elementary School.

In 1924 he was approached by Major MacLean, the Commanding Officer of 6th Field Company CE (M), to form an army cadet corps. On 1 September 1924 he received his commission, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Cadet Services of Canada and appointed the cadet corps Instructor.

In October of 1924, he was made a life member of the Varsity soccer team at the University of British Columbia in recognition of many years of outstanding service to the team. From 1929 to 1933, Lieutenant Crute served as principal of Queen Mary School in North Vancouver. He then accepted a teaching position at Ridgeway Junior High School, which included the appointment as student counsellor. In 1940, Ridgeway started an army cadet corps for the second time in its history (the first corps was #125, active from 1914 to 1922) and Lieutenant Crute was soon made Staff Commander and Instructor. Having retired from the CSofC, he worked with the cadet corps as a civilian, until 1946. Shortly afterwards he retired from teaching. During his retirement, Lieutenant Crute remained active in the community including taking on the job as Superintendent of Sunday School at St. Andrew's United Church. He died at the age of 84 on 31 October 1968 in North Vancouver.

Written by Captain Bob Irvine