

41 Casually Clearing Station

P. 67.

Sept 13th 1917

Dear Mrs Buchan

I am very happy to hear from you for I have so often thought about you. Your dear boy was brought to us on the afternoon of the 9th April dangerously wounded in the abdomen. Everything that could be done was done, and he had every care and attention, but all was of no avail and he died very peacefully the same day. I only wish I could tell you more about him, but he was with us for such a short time, and as rest & quietness were most essential, so as to give him every chance, we did not bother or worry him about anything, and he was more or less unconscious all the time. We were very very busy that day, and had many officers in, but these two boys, Lt Buchan & Lt Maude impressed me very much. They were brought in together, both dangerously wounded, and both died within a few minutes of each other, and oh, as they were carried out I thought of you & Mrs Maude - their mothers, and wished you could have taken my place & been with your dear boys at the last. I sent a letter, but had it returned, & now I see I put on the wrong Pat. R.S.F. I am sorry, for it perhaps would

have comforted you a little. I am so glad that Mrs Maude wrote to you. I saw her when I was home on leave, and already I had written & told her about your boy, and she said she would try & find out about his home. The Cemetery was quite near to us then, and I often used to visit their graves.

I shall always remember these two boys. There were so young, and to me they looked such mother's boys. It is indeed a cruel war, and yet no one could die more nobly than your son, and it must comfort you a little and almost may you proud to know that he gave his life for others even as Christ did, & he shall be Christ's reward.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. The Chaplain who was with us at the time, has now left. He is with the Cavalry some where, but I can get his home address, and will send it to you later.

with my heartfelt sympathy, & may God give you courage, and grace to bear your sorrow bravely.

Yours very sincerely

Beatrice J. D. Reid