

David was born in Durisdeer, Dumfriesshires, Scotland in 1934, the son of James Cranston and Mary Anne Cranston, nee Smith. On 11th August 1914 he joined F Company, AN&NEF stating that he was a mechanic and single. On 24th Dec he was promoted corporal and on 1st Feb 1915 he was transferred to A Company, 3rd AN&MEF, departing Rabaul and being discharged, term expired, on 25th September 1915.

On 2nd October 1915 he joined the AIF, initially with the 20th Battalion, service number 3367. He then attended the No.5 Engineering School, the No.8 Depot School and the NO.10 Musketry School.

Prior to his departure he married Eliza Boland on 3rd November 1915 at Holsworthy.

On 5th July he was transferred to the 2nd Reinforcements, Light Trench Mortar Battery and had his regimental number changed to 1202. He was appointed acting Sergeant Major and left Australia on 7th October 1916 on the CERAMIC, arriving in Plymouth on 21st November. On arrival he reverted to his substantive rank of private, and on 6th Feb 1917 he transferred to the 13th Battalion.

On 23rd May 1915, having been diagnosed with chronic rheumatism, he was sent back to Australia aboard the AYRESHIRE, arriving in Sydney on 19th July where he was discharged from the AIF on 21st August 1917.

David died at Katoomba on 14th July 1948 where he was listed as living at Hazelbrook and a retired engineer.