

Harold was born at Bathurst on 1st April 1889, the son of John and Mary Atkins. He joined the Customs Service on 18th November 1912 and then enlisted into F Company, AN&MEF, on 11th August 1914. He listed his father at 109 George St Bathurst as his next of kin.

Harold returned from Rabaul and was discharged, time expired, on 4th March 1915 having served 206 days.

On 28th July 1915 he enlisted into the 6th Reinforcements of the 1st Battalion. He applied for a commission and was appointed a 2nd Lieutenant on 19th Feb 1916. He sailed with the reinforcements aboard the MAKARINA, departing Sydney on 1st April 1916, arriving in Suez on 2nd May.

He joined the Battalion in France as a supernumerary on 13th July 1916 and was killed some 10 days later whilst the Battalion was attacking enemy lines at Pozieres.

Harold is remembered at the Australian War memorial in Villers-Bretonneux and on Panel 28 at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.