Arthur Dixon





Rank: - Driver

Number: - 2014285

Regiment: - Royal Engineers 279 Field Coy.

Died: - Killed in Action 02/11/1944 Age: 24 years

Cemetery: - Mierlo War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands VI. G. 11.

Batley News, 18 Nov 1944 (photo) "*Ossett Observer*", Saturday, November 18th 1944.

Arthur Dixon was born in Ossett on the 9th February 1920, the second child and first son of four children born to Rowland Dixon and his wife Clarissa, nee Bedford, both born in Ossett, who married at the Wesleyan Chapel Ossett on the 2nd February 1914. In 1911, Rowland, aged 19 years and a dyer's labourer was living with his grandparents at 68, Dewsbury Road, Ossett.

In 1939, Rowland and Clarissa Dixon and their son, Arthur, with two other siblings, were living at 7, Royds Avenue, Ossett. Rowland and Arthur were both working in the woollen trade with Rowland a packer and his son Arthur a warehouseman.

Arthur Dixon married Gladys Dickinson at Hick Lane Methodist Church, Batley on 1 May 1943 and on the 16th June 1944, their only child, a daughter, Barbara Dixon was born.

The *"Ossett Observer"* had this short obituary for Arthur Dixon:[1]

"Driver Arthur Dixon, Ossett - On Saturday last, Mrs. Gladys Dixon, Warwick Mount, Batley, received official information that her husband, Driver Arthur Dixon (24) was killed in action on November 2nd in the North West European theatre of war. Son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Dixon of Royds Avenue, Ossett, he was educated at Gawthorpe Council and Ossett Grammar Schools and was employed by Messrs. Jos Field Ltd, Batley, until called to the colours in May 1940. He served as a sapper with the Royal Engineers in the Home Forces until D-Day, when he went to France, and subsequently through Belgium to Holland. He was closely connected with the Kingsway Methodist Church from Childhood, taking part with his family in various church activities."



SAPPER ARTHUR DIXON KILLED

Had Not Seen His Infant Child

Mrs. Gladys Dixon, 2, Warwick Mount, Warwick Road, Batley, received news on Saturday that her husband, Sapper Arthur Dixon, Royal Engineers, was killed in action in North-West Europe on November 2nd. He leaves a five-months-old daughter he had not seen.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Dixon, of Ossett, Sapper Dixon was in Europe since June 13th and had been in the Army just over four years.

Before joining up he was employed in the rag warehouse of Messrs. Joseph Field, Wellington Road, Dewsbury.

Educated at Ossett Grammar School, he worshipped at Kingsway Methodist Church, Ossett, and Hick Lane Methodist Church, Batley.

Arthur Dixon.

His wife was formerly Miss Gladys Dickenson, of Batley, and they were married on May 1st, 1943, at Hick Lane Church.

She has three brothers serving—Harold Dickenson (India), Tom Dickenson (Middle East) and Ronald Dickenson (England).

Driver Arthur Dixon died on the 2nd November 1944 aged 24 years and is buried at Mierlo War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands, Grave VI. G. 11.

SUNSHINE PASSES, SHADOWS FALL BUT LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE OUTLIVE ALL.

The cemetery was started in the spring of 1945 when graves were brought in from the surrounding district, most of them being casualties of September-November 1944. At that time the main fighting was concerned with clearing the region south and west of the Maas and with opening up the Scheldt estuary further west. Helmond itself was occupied on 25 September, 1944.

References:

1. *"Ossett Observer"*, Saturday, November 18th 1944.
2. Commonwealth War Graves Commission web site

Thanks to Ossett.net

