Denton Myers







Rank: - Private

Number: - 82582

Regiment: - Royal Army Medical Corps 29th Sanitary Section

Died of heart failure due to Malaria (BT) infection in Mesopotamia: - 25/07/1919 Age: 35 years

Cemetery: - Basra War Cemetery, Iraq II. D. 13.

Batley Reporter, 8 Aug 1919. Batley News, 16 Aug 1919 (photo)

Family Details

Denton was born in Batley on the 10th June 1885 the son of Ezekiel & Elizabeth Myers nee Green and was baptised at St. Thomas's Church on 19th July 1885 when the family lived at Mount Pleasant. His parents had married on the 20th September 1884 at the same church.
In 1891 the family with the additions of Susan 1887 and Mary Ann 1890 was living at 24, Beaumont Street, Mount Pleasant and Ezekiel was employed as a coal miner. Lily born 1894 died aged 3 months in May 1894, Edward born 1894 died in August 1896. The family adopted Elizabeth Jackson born 1901 and they had moved to a five roomed home at 9, Yard 3, Dark Lane, Batley before 1911.

As a boy Denton attended Purlwell and Staincliffe Schools and was connected with the Gospel Hall. He was an enthusiastic sportsman and played football with Dewsbury "A" and cricket with Purlwell Juniors for whom he was wicket keeper. He gave great promise as a footballer and "Wattie" Davies had declared that he would have made one of the finest local forwards if an accident had not intervened. In about 1908 when working at Hick Lane Mills he fell down a hoist and sustained a compound fracture of the leg, which stopped these activities and he had to be a patient at Batley Hospital for several periods of time.
Denton was a popular member of Batley Working Men's Club.

On the 21st December 1912 Denton married Alice Harding at St. Saviour's Church, Brownhill.
Florence Annie was born in 1914.
At the time he enlisted he was working at Messrs. Henry Burrows, Batley and had been in hospital only a short time before enlisting. The family lived at Back Brearley Street, Mount Pleasant.

Service Details

Newspaper reports state he enlisted in 1916 and served most of his time in Mesopotamia.

Writing home on July 9th 1919 he said: -

"I see Huddersfield won the Yorkshire Cup again. I hope we (Batley) get a good cricket team. I did not half catch it when Lancashire beat us. I hope you (father) are on the top of your form on the green and that you keep getting a few lessons from Tommy Moore. Remember me to all my old pals and all inquiring friends. I

see E. Kirk is the captain at the Mount... We keep carrying on in the old style – always merry and bright. Keep smiling!"

Denton died from malaria on the 25th July 1919.

He was well known and highly respected in the district and his death would have been regretted in a large circle of friends who had been looking forward to his return.

Denton was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group