Stanley Potter





Rank: - Sergeant

Number: - 4688470

Regiment: - Reconnaissance Corps, R.A.C. 46th Regt.

Died: - Died of wounds, Italy 2 October 1943 Age: 27 years.

Cemetery: - Salerno War Cemetery, Italy V. B. 24.

Stanley was born in early 1916 the son of Sarah Ann Potter who married Joshua Butterfield in the latter part of 1916. In the 1940's she lived at 5, Brownhill Road, Brookroyd, Batley.

Stanley married Janey Dixon in 1939 and they lived at No.1 Yard 2, North Street, Cross Bank, Batley. He was employed by Messrs. H. Haigh, woollen manufacturers, Birkenshaw.

Stanley went abroad on New Year's Day 1943.

On 3 September 193 the Allies invaded the Italian Mainland, the invasion coinciding with an armistice made with the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allied side. Allied objectives were to draw German troops from the Russian front and more particularly from France, where an offensive was planned for the following year.



FRIEND CONFIRMS DEATH OF BATLEY SERGEANT

Mrs. Potter, No. 1, Yard 2, North Street, Cross Bank, has received news that her husband, Sergt. Stanley Potter, Reconnaissance Corps, has been killed in action in the Central Mediterranean area on October 2nd.

Since the official news was received on Thursday last week a friend has written to tell Mrs. Potter that her husband died from wounds in hospital.

Sergt. Potter, who went abroad on New New Year's Day, has never seen his seven - weeks - old daughter. He was the son of Mrs. Butterfield, 5, Brownhill Road, Brookroyd, Batley, and was formerly employed by Messrs. H. Haigh, woollen manufacturers, Birkenshaw. His last letter home was date ' September 29th.

Stanley Potter.

Batley News, 6 Nov 1943 (photo)

Commonwealth and American forces landed near Salemo on 8-9 September 1943 and there was fierce fighting for some days in the bridgehead that they established. The site for the cemetery was chosen in November 1943 and it contains many burials resulting from the landings and the fighting that followed. The 59th General Hospital was in the vicinity of Salerno towards the end of 1943.

His wife received news that Stanley had been killed in the Central Mediterranean area on 2nd October. This was followed by a letter from a friend saying he had died of wounds. His last letter home was dated September 29th. He never saw his seven-week-old daughter.

HAPPY, SMILING, ALWAYS CONTENT LOVED WHEREVER HE WENT BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES ARE LEFT OF ONE WE CANNOT FORGET

Stanley is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial and was awarded the 1939-45 Star and the 1939-1945 War Medal.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group