George Raymond Peace







Rank: - Private

Number: - 202486

Regiment: - Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) 2/4th Battalion

Died of Wounds: - 22/04/1917 Age: 39 years

Cemetery: - St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France **O.1X.E.4**

"IN THAT PLACE OF LIGHT GIVE HIM REST OH LORD"

Dewsbury Reporter, 28 Apr 1917

Family Details

George Raymond was born in Batley in June 1877 the son of Joseph and Sarah Elizabeth Peace nee Whitworth who had married on the 7th February 1872 at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton. He was baptised on the 1st July 1877 at Christ Church, Staincliffe when the family lived at Kelvin Grove, Staincliffe and his father was a clerk to the Dewsbury Board of Guardians of the Poor.

In 1881 the Joseph and Sarah were living at Park Road, off West Park Street, Dewsbury with their children Frances Josephine 6th March 1873, Charles Ernest 14th March 1875, George, Amy 24th September 1890 and two servants. Kathleen was born on 23rd February 1883 followed by Bertrand on 12th December 1884.

In 1891 George along with his brother Charles was a boarder at Springfield House which was a school in Kirkby Lonsdale.

His sister Frances Josephine had married Arthur Ernest Slee who was a manufacturer's agent in grocery wares and in 1911 he was living with them and their two children at 57, Kirkstall Avenue, Kirkstall, Leeds in a seven roomed home and was described as a gentleman.

He did travel to Canada and South Africa but it is not known whether this was for business or pleasure.

When his father retired the family moved from Dewsbury to 10, King Edward's Drive, Harrogate.

Service Details

George "Ray" was in Canada when war broke out and returned to England and worked in a bank in Bradford before he enlisted. According to the Dewsbury Reporter Ray tried to join the London Scottish, but was unsuccessful on health grounds. He attested in April 1916 and went to France. On the 15th April 1917 he was severely wounded by shell fire near the village of Lagnicourt, south of Arras. He died in hospital in Rouen on the 22nd April 1917.

PEACE-In loving memory of Private George Raymond "Ray" Peace of the Duke of Wellington's W.R. Regiment the loving and dearly loved son of Joseph and Sarah Elizabeth Peace of Harrogate, late of Dewsbury, who died in Hospital at Rouen on April 22nd1917 from wounds received in action. Aged 39 years.

He wrote: - “I hope I may be able to do something worthy of my family” (Canadian and South African papers please copy).

He is not dead whose glorious mind, Lifts thine on high

To live in hearts, we leave behind is not to die.

He is remembered with Honour at Wheelwright Grammar School, Dewsbury; Dewsbury War Memorial and Batley War Memorial, Addenda.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group