Harold Senior





Rank: - Private

Number: - 242604

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (Formerly 4849 King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) 1/5th Battalion

Killed in Action: - 19/07/1917 Age: 24 years

Cemetery: - Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium 1.C.13

Family Details

Harold was born in Earlsheaton on 11th September 1893 son of Herman and Ada Senior nee Hemingway who had married at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 20th April 1889.He was baptised at the same church on 7th August 1895 when his father's occupation was given as a cloth finisher.

Harold's siblings were, Albert Edward 1889, Elsie 1894-1894, Clifford 1896 at Town St, Earlsheaton, Clement 1898. Ada died in the July quarter 1900. In 1901 Herman had returned to live with his mother, siblings and Clement at Cross Street, Earlsheaton. Harold was living with his maternal grandmother at Commercial Street, Earlsheaton.

Herman married Hannah Maud Lee in the summer of 1904 and Ethel was born in 1905 followed by Alice 1906 and Leslie 1907. Sadly, this was a trying time for the family and although Herman was working as a weaver, he did get into civil debt in 1909. Herman died in early 1911.

In 1911 when the census was taken, Hannah Maud was living at 11, Jack Lane, Commonside, Batley with her children Ethel, Alice, and Leslie, her stepsons Harold and Clement and her sister Ruth Ann Lee.

Service Details

Harold attested on the 11th June 1911 at Dewsbury into the K.O.Y.L.I. Special Reserve giving his occupation as a dyer's labourer. He had brown eyes, weighed 111 lbs. and was 5 ft 5 inches tall. He gave his religion as Wesleyan. His reference was given by his employer Harry Sykes of Healey Lane, Batley, shoddy manufacturer. He gave his next of kin as Maud Senior (step mum) of Brearley Street, Mount Pleasant and Clement Senior of 54, Edley Lane, Earlsheaton. His service number was 727.

On 28th November 1911, Harold left the Reserves to join the 2nd Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment serving as Private 10180.

A Court of Enquiry was assembled in Dublin on 17th July 1912, because Harold was absent without leave and was 'deficient' of his equipment and 'regimental necessaries'. No further information is known about the outcome of this Court of Enquiry or how long Harold was absent without leave.

Harold later joined the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry but the date is unknown because the 1/5th went to France in April 1915 and Harold did not receive the 1915 Star.

He was killed in action in Flanders on 19th July 1917; the enemy having commenced a sustained bombardment of Gas Shells on the Belgian coast around Nieuport

His brother Clement Senior died of wounds on the 25th August 1917.

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

Harold is remembered with Honour at Dewsbury War Memorial; Earlsheaton Park War Memorial; St Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group