George Walker





Rank: - Private

Number: - 205475

Regiment: - King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 9th Battalion Signaller

Killed in Action / Died of Wounds. Shot through the throat.: -
29/05/1918 Age: 28 years

Cemetery: - Jonchery-sur-Vesle British Cemetery, France I. H. 11.

Batley News, 22 Jun 1918 (photo)

Family Details

George was born in Batley on the 16th October 1890 the son of William and Mary Ann Walker nee Downs. George was baptised at Batley Parish Church on 23rd November 1890. The couple had married at Batley Parish Church on the 17th May 1890.

In 1891 he was living with his Batley born parents at 8, Russell Street. Batley and William gave his occupation as a carrier.

Elizabeth Ann was born in 1893 followed by Maria 24th July 1895 and Willie 14th August 1899 and when the 1901 census was taken the family was living at 9, Yard 1, Holland Street, Batley. William was now working as a teamer.

Sam was born in December 1901 but sadly died aged 23 months in November 1903 followed by Joseph in September 1903 who died aged 11 months in August 1904 when the family resided at Hilberoyd Road, Batley.

When the 1911 census was taken the family was living at 16, Holland Street, Batley and George was working as a carter like his father. Elizabeth Ann and Maria were both weavers.

George attended Park Road Schools and the Parish Church where he was a choir boy.

On the 12th September 1914 he married Eliza Jane Wench at the Wesleyan Centenary Chapel, Dewsbury. The couple went to live at Princess Street, Batley and Gwendoline was born in 1917.

Before he enlisted, he worked as a motor lorry driver at Messrs. J.W. Blackburn's, Old Mill, Batley.

Service Details

George enlisted around May 1917 and went to France in early April 1918. The 9th Battalion came under the orders of 64th Brigade in 21st Division and had been in France since September 1915.

The battalion took part in: -

The Battle of Messines (10-11th April)
The Second Battle of Kemmel (25-26th April)
The Battle of the Aisne 1918 (27 May -6th June)

It was reported that George was shot through the throat and died in hospital on the 29th May 1918.

At this time his brother Willie was in hospital in France suffering from trench feet.

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

George is remembered with Honour on Batley War Memorial.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group