Isaac Henry Wilde





Rank: - Private

Number: - 15846

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

Died of Wounds sustained 01/07/1916: - 7th July 1916

Cemetery: - Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-L'Abbe, Somme, France 1.F.33

Family Details

Isaac Henry was born in Low Valley in c.1887 the son of Silas and Helen/ Ellen Wilde nee Wirton / Worton who both came from Stafford. They had married in the Rotherham area in 1880.

Agnes Ann was born in Rotherham in the same year followed by Silas born in the Barnsley Union District in 1884 followed by Isaac Henry in 1885 but who sadly died when only a few months old. They named their next born son by the same name. Joseph was born in the Wakefield District in 1897.

In 1891 the family was living at 15, Railway Terrace, Alverthorpe when Silas was employed as a coal miner.

On the 27th November 1909 Isaac Henry of Back Ridgway Street Dewsbury married 19-year-old Jane Rhodes at Dewsbury Parish Church. He gave his occupation as a dyer's labourer.

In 1911 the couple was living with his brother Silas, and his family of five at 8, Thomas Street, Beckett Road, Batley Carr which was a two roomed home. Clifford was born in 1910 but sadly died the same year, another child they named Clifford was born in 1911 followed by Joseph 1913, Sarah Ellen 1915 sadly died in early 1916.

The 1911 shows Ellen was living at Back Ridgeway Street, Dewsbury with her married daughter, Agnes Ann Speight and her son-in-law and two children and Joseph her 13-year-old son in a three roomed home. The census shows that she had 14 children born alive but only four had survived infancy.

His father, Silas died in Dewsbury District in 1st Qtr 1915.

Service Details

The 9th (Service) Battalion was formed at Pontefract in September 1914 as part of K3 and came under command of 64th Brigade in 21st Division. They moved to Berkhamsted and then to Halton Park (Tring) in October 1914, going on to billets in Maidenhead in November returning to Halton Park in April 1915 and went on to Witley in August.

In September 1915 they landed in France.

In 1915 they fought at the Battle of Loos

In 1916 their first major battle was the Battle of Albert which started on Saturday, 1st July 1916.

His friend John Henry Holmes wrote to his mother: -

"As we went over the parapet out of the trenches on Saturday morning July 1st about half past seven, I was with him for about 100 yards, when he worked away from me. Next time I saw him he was severely wounded—riddled with bullets in the back from a German machine gun, and perhaps suffered the same fate as him. I never saw him again but after the advance I came back to see if I could find him but he was gone. I enquired about him and was told he had died of wounds. I am very thankful to be living myself and lucky to have come through without a scratch, as the bullets whizzed past us like a shower of rain and those who missed them were lucky. German shells were dropping all amongst us well and we had something to put up with, I can tell you. It was just like going through the gates of hell, and like getting through a concrete wall taking the German first-line trenches but we managed it alright and it was a great surprise packet to the Germans how we did it on them."

Isaac Henry was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley and Dewsbury War Memorials.



Researched by members of
Batley History Group