



Willie Moorhouse 1890 - 1916

Willie was born in Earlsheaton on 5th April 1890. His father was Ephraim Moorhouse, a coal miner born in Flockton in 1861 and died in 1947. His mother was Amelia (née Lumb) born in Earlsheaton in 1867 and died in 1915. They were married at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 16th October 1886.

Their other children were; Lumb, born in 1887, John, born in 1891, Leonard, born in 1894, Eva, born in 1896, Ephraim, born in 1898, Sam, born in 1901 and Betsey, born in 1905.

On the 1891 Census the family are living at 95, Mill Street, Spennymoor, County Durham, in 1901 at Barugh Road, Barugh (pronounced as *Bark*) near Barnsley and in 1911 at 6, Albert Terrace, Batley.

Willie was married at Dewsbury Register Office on 13th May 1911 to Sarah Laverick (born in Spennymoor in 1870 and died in 1939). His occupation was given as a coal miner. They moved to Spennymoor following their marriage and had a son Willie, born 23rd September 1911. On the 1939 Register taken on the 29th of September, Sarah Moorhouse is living at 4, Parker Street, Spennymoor with her son. She died later that year.

N.B. Sarah Laverick's age is given as 29 on her marriage record and age 30 on the 1911 Census taken on 2nd April, when she is living with the Moorhouse family, but previous census records from 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901 confirm her true age. Also, on the census records for 1881 & 1901 she is recorded as being Deaf & Dumb, on the 1911 census record she is recorded as having a speech impediment.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 1036 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was later transferred to the 174th Tunnelling Company of the Royal Engineers as Sapper 82711. He was sent to France & Flanders on the 9th of March 1915 and was killed in action on 3rd September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. He was buried in Knightsbridge Cemetery, Mesnil-Martinsart, Somme, France. Willie was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Willie is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park.

N.B. The name of Willie Moorhouse appears on the addenda panel of the Dewsbury Cenotaph but not in the same alphabetical order as the other 12 names, which suggests that it was added some time after the inauguration on the 6th of September 1924, presumably at the request of his family who were still living in the district.

Of the 1053 names from the First World War on the Dewsbury Cenotaph, his name is the only one not replicated in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour which is kept in Dewsbury Central Library. No local newspaper articles reporting his death have been found.

In Memory of

Sapper

W Moorhouse

82711, 174th Tunnelling Coy., Royal Engineers who died on 03 September 1916

Remembered with Honour

Knightsbridge Cemetery, Mesnil-Martinsart



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

