



Charles Blamires

1889 -1916

Charles was born in Dewsbury in 1889; his full name was officially registered as *Charley Blamires*. His father was William Blamires (birth name *Blaymire*), a stone mason born in Dawgreen, Dewsbury in 1858 and died in 1930. His mother was Eliza Ann (née Ledgard) born in Mexborough in 1861 and died in 1948. They were married at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor in 1882. The family surname had several spelling variations.

Their other children were; Charles Henry, born in 1884 and died in 1885, Luke, born in 1886 and served in World War 1, Harriet Ann, born in 1891, James Henry, born in 1894, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1897 and died in 1898, Walter, born in 1899 and died in 1902, William, born in 1903 and died in 1905, Ronald, born in 1913.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Low Road, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at 22, New Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 19, Swallow Road, Dewsbury and later at 35, Albion Street, Ravensthorpe.

Charles worked as a taker-in at Kilner Brothers glass bottle works. He was married in Dewsbury in 1912 to Edith Senior (born in 1894 and died in 1955) they had two children; Arnold Reginald, born in 1913 and Thomas William, born in 1915 and died in 1915. Edith was remarried in 1918 to Joseph Day (born in 1884 and died in 1951); they had five children.

He joined the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) enlisting in Mirfield and was later transferred to the South Staffordshire Regiment as Private 2447. He was transferred once more, serving as Private Charles Blaymire 37105 in the 8th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment. He was killed in action near Grandcourt on 18th November 1916 during what was to be the last set piece attack of the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Charles was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Charles is also commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Private

Charles Blaymire

37105, 8th Bn., Gloucestershire Regiment who died on 18 November 1916

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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