

Timothy Kenny 1891 – 1916

Timothy was born in Dewsbury on 8th August 1891 His father was Francis Kenny, a Mason's Labourer born in Castlerea, County Roscommon, Ireland around 1847 and died in 1911. His mother was Bridget (née Tarpey) born in Castlerea around 1850 and died in 1904. They were married on 24th May 1873 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Thomas, born in 1873 and was killed in action in 1897 in the Tirah Campaign on the North-West Frontier of India, Mary Ellen, born in 1874, Annie, born in 1878, Patrick, born in 1880 and was killed in action 7th September 1915, Jane, born in 1882 and died in 1886, Timothy, born in 1884 and died in 1886, Katie, born in 1886, Jane, born in 1887, Frank, born in 1889 and served in World War 1 and Lily, born in 1895.

On the 1881 and 1891 Census Records the family lived at 66, Middle Road, Westtown, in 1901 at 64, Wilman Road, Westtown and in 1911 at 60, Middle Road.

Timothy was a single man who was educated at St. Paulinus School and attended Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church. He was employed as a rag picker.

He enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war, serving as Private 22231 in the 6th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front in January 1916. He died of wounds in the 14th Field Ambulance near Arras, France on 21st June 1916 and was buried in Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Pas-de-Calais, France. Timothy was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Timothy lived with his married sister, Mrs. Mary Ellen Nelson at 8, High Street, Westtown, Dewsbury. In his last letter home, he wrote: "I feel in the pink just now, but all the same there is no place like home, and this is the place to make one study, so, dear sister, I am sending you some little rosary beads, and I hope you will always keep them for my sake."

Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery is in the western part of the town of Arras. The French handed over Arras to Commonwealth forces in the spring of 1916 and the system of tunnels upon which the town is built were used and developed in preparation for the major offensive planned for April 1917. The Commonwealth section of the cemetery was begun in March 1916, behind the French military cemetery established earlier, it continued to be used by field ambulances and fighting units until November 1918. The cemetery was enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields and from two smaller cemeteries in the vicinity. The cemetery contains over 2,650 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 10 of which are unidentified.

Timothy is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of Private

T Kenny

22231, 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 21 June 1916

Remembered with Honour Faubourg D'amiens Cemetery, Arras





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

