



Bernard Wilson

1897 – 1917

Bernard was born in Dewsbury on 18th September 1897 and baptised at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor on 7th November 1897. His father was Henry Wilson, a clerk in a rag auctioneering firm born in 1856. His mother was Emma (nee Senior) born in 1856. They were married in St. John the Evangelist Church on 20th November 1882.

Their other children were; Ernest, born in 1883, Bertha, born in 1884, Edwin Senior, born in 1886 and served in World War 1, Arnold Joe, born in 1888 and was killed in action 3rd May 1917, Mary Emma, born in 1891 and Henry Raymond, born in 1893 and served in World War 1.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records they were living at 8, Clarke Street, Reservoir Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 60, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

Bernard was a single man who was employed as a delivery clerk for the Great Central Railway Company in Wakefield. He had worked them for five years and worked at several other stations. In his youth he had attended St. John the Evangelist Church but when the family moved to live on Leeds Road he became attached to St. Philip's Church.

He served as Private 34344 in the 5th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was killed in action on 11th June 1917 near Ypres whilst working in an ammunition dump moving various items. An enemy shell landed amongst the British ammunition killing him and injuring another soldier. He was buried in Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Bernard was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) is located 2 Kms south-east of Ieper (Ypres) town centre. The commune of Zillebeke contains many Commonwealth cemeteries as the front line trenches ran through it during the greater part of the First World War. Railway Dugouts Cemetery is 2 Kms west of Zillebeke village, where the railway runs on an embankment overlooking a small farmstead, which was known to the troops as Transport Farm. The cemetery now contains 2,459 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. 430 of the burials are unidentified and 261 casualties are represented by special memorials

Bernard is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor and on War Memorial from the now demolished St. Philips Church now located in Dewsbury Minster.

In Memory of

Private

B Wilson

34344, 5th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 11 June 1917

Remembered with Honour

Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm)



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

