



Harold Ward

1891 – 1917

Harold was born in Wakefield in 1891. His father was George Ward, a Blacksmith born in Wakefield in 1862 and died in 1919. His mother was Elizabeth Ann (nee Cornwall) born in Darlington, County Durham in 1869 and died in 1943. They were married in the West Parade Wesleyan Chapel, Wakefield on 30th August 1890.

They also had three daughters; Ethel, born in 1893 and died in 1908, Elsie, born in 1895 and Mabel, born in 1898.

On the 1891 Census they lived at 44, Hatfield Street, Wakefield, in 1901 and 1911 at 46, Lidgate Lane, Batley Carr and later at 165, Lidgate Lane, Batley Carr.

Elizabeth was remarried in 1925 to a widower and Master Journeyman Painter, William Hedley Ambrose Murday (born in 1873 and died in 1953).

Harold was educated at Batley Carr Church School and was connected with Batley Carr Parish Church and Sunday school. He was also a member of Batley Carr Working Men's Club and followed Batley Rugby Football Club. He worked as a Blanket Raiser for Messrs Wormald and Walkers in Thornhill Lees.

He enlisted around July 1916 serving as Private 18673 in the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards. He was killed in action on 14th July 1917 in Belgian Flanders. A shell burst close to him, killing him instantly and one other man and wounding several others. He was buried in Canada Farm Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Harold was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Canada Farm Cemetery is located 8.5 kilometres north-west of Ieper (Ypres) town centre. The Cemetery took its name from a farmhouse used as a dressing station during the 1917 Allied offensive on this front. Most of the burials are of men who died at the dressing station between June and October 1917. There are now 907 First World War burials in the cemetery.

Harold is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.

In Memory of
Private
H Ward

18673, 2nd Bn., Coldstream Guards who died on 14 July 1917 Age 26

Son of George and Elizabeth Ann Ward, of 165, Lidgate Lane, Batley Carr, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour
Canada Farm Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Ms. Danielle Roubroeks, Antwerp, Belgium.