



Harry Oldroyd

1895 - 1917

Harry was born in Dewsbury on 22nd April 1895. His father was Hiram Oldroyd, a Railway Van Man born in Dewsbury in 1873 and died in 1948. His mother was Annie (nee Lockwood) born in Ossett in 1871 and died in 1932. They were married on 29th November 1894 at St. Philip's Church, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; twins Ellen, born in Dewsbury in 1898 and died in 1898 and Hannah, born in Dewsbury in 1898 and died in 1900, Nellie, born in Seedley, Salford, Lancashire in 1902 and Willie, born in Dewsbury in 1905 and died in 1907.

On the 1901 Census the family were living at Laburnum Street, Pendleton, Lancashire, in 1911 at 78, Cliffe Street, Dewsbury and later at 27, Rishworth Street, Dewsbury.

Harry was a single man who was educated at Eastborough Council School. He joined the Special Reserve at the age of 16 and six months later became attached to a Line Regiment, the 8th Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment serving as Private 28888. He was in Singapore at the outbreak of war, but returned home in November 1914 and was sent to the Western Front in May 1915. He was killed in action on 26th September 1917 during the Battle of Passchendaele, his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His obituary in the Dewsbury Reporter stated that his Officer had described him as: "*a brave soldier and a tower of strength in a tight corner*".

The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery and commemorates nearly 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom and New Zealand who died in the Ypres Salient after 16th August 1917 and whose graves are not known. The memorial stands close to the farthest point in Belgium reached by Commonwealth forces in the First World War until the final advance to victory.

Harry 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 Memorial Plaque to former pupils of Eastborough School and on the War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Private

Harry Oldroyd

28888, 8th Bn., East Yorkshire Regiment who died on 26 September 1917 Age 22

Son of Hiram and Annie Oldroyd, of 27, Rishworth St., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Tyne Cot Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

OLDROYD H.