



Albert Hirst

1879 - 1917

Albert was born in Dewsbury on 28th December 1879. His father was Ben Hirst, a Rag Warehouseman, born in New Mill, Huddersfield in 1837 and died in 1921. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Hey) born in Kirkburton, Huddersfield in 1843 and died in 1916. They were married on 19th October 1872 in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Almondbury, Huddersfield.

Their other children were; Alice, born in 1873, Louisa, born in 1876, Harry, born in 1883 and served in World War 1, Arthur, born in 1885 and Helena, born in 1890 and died in 1895.

On the 1881 Census they lived at Springfield View, Dewsbury, in 1891 at 3, Trinity Buildings, Flatts, Dewsbury, in 1901 and 1911 at 4, Beech Grove, Dewsbury.

Ben was previously married in 1859 to Mary Jane Rollinson (born in 1839 and died in 1870) their children were; Rollinson, born in 1860 and died in 1863, Herbert, born in 1862, Martha Hannah, born in 1864 and Emily Jane, born in 1867.

Albert was educated at Dewsbury Parish Church School and was a member of the choir at St. James's Mission Church, Flatts and a sidesman and treasurer of the Young Men's' Club. He worked as a warehouseman for Messrs Mark Oldroyd and Sons, Spinkwell Mill, Dewsbury. He was married to Ethel Maud Goodall (born in 1887 and died in 1976) on 10th June 1916 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury. They lived at 10, Granville Street, Flatts, they had no children. Ethel was remarried at All Saints Church on 26th April 1924 to Thomas Richard Terry (born in 1880 and died in 1957).

He enlisted on 22nd March 1916 serving as Private 202342 in the 2nd/4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front on 15th January 1917. He was killed in action near Bapaume, France on 30th September 1917 and is buried in Favreuil British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Albert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Favreuil is a village in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais about 2 kilometres north of Bapaume. It was occupied by British troops in March, 1917, lost in March, 1918, and retaken by the 37th and New Zealand Divisions on the 25th August. The cemetery was begun in April, 1917, and used until March, 1918, by fighting units (particularly of the 62nd (West Riding) Division) and Field Ambulances. Further burials were made in August and September, 1918, and after the Armistice British graves were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields and other burial grounds. There are now nearly 400, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over ten are unidentified and special memorials are erected to four soldiers from the United Kingdom known or believed to be buried among them. Another special memorial records the name of a soldier from the United Kingdom, buried in Favreuil German Cemetery, whose grave could not be found.

Albert 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

Albert Hirst

202342, 2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 29 September 1917 Age 37

Son of Ben and Elizabeth Hirst; husband of Ethel Maud Hirst, of 9, Trinity Place, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Favreuil British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

