



William Chatwood

1892 - 1917

William was born in Dewsbury on 5th September 1892 and baptised on 16th November 1892 at St. John the Baptist Church, Dawgreen, Dewsbury. His father was Alfred Hunt Chatwood, a Boilermaker's Labourer born in Dewsbury in 1865 and died in 1936. His mother was Hannah (nee Milnes) born in Dewsbury in 1863 and died in 1931. They were married on 5th April 1890 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

Their other children were; Herbert, born in 1890, Frank, born in 1895, Tom, born in 1897 and was killed in action 12th May 1917, Sarah Elizabeth, born in 1899 and died in 1901, Mary Ann, born in 1902 and Allen born in 1905.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 42, Princess Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 34, Back Lawson Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 36, Kilburn's Yard, Flatts, Dewsbury.

William was educated at Eastborough Council School and on the 1911 census he is employed as a wood bobbin rinser at the Shuttle Bobbin Works but later worked with his brother Tom at Kilner Brothers Glass Bottle Works. He was married on 23rd December 1916 to Mary Rourke (born in Gateshead in 1894) at Dewsbury Wesleyan Centenary Methodist Chapel. They lived at Back Vulcan Road, Flatts and did not have any children. Mary was remarried on 7th June 1919 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury to George Greaves (born in 1893 and died in 1951)

He enlisted in early 1917 into the York and Lancaster Regiment serving as Private 41942 and was later transferred into the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment serving as Private G/52453. He was killed in action on 25th November 1917 in the aftermath of the Battle of Passchendaele, his remains were found in July 1920 and he is now buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. William was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

There are now more than 11,900 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in Tyne Cot Cemetery. More than 8,370 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to more than 80 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials commemorate 20 casualties whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.

William 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
W Chatwood

G/52453, 2nd Bn., Middlesex Regiment who died on 25 November 1917

Remembered with Honour
Tyne Cot Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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