



Joshua Ward

1891-1918

Joshua was born in Chickenley in 1891. His father was Fred Ward, a Woollen Spinner born in Birstall in 1855 and died in 1912. His mother was Eliza Ann (nee Taylor) born in Wellington, Somerset in 1857 and died in 1941. They were married on 10th October 1880 at All Saints Church, Batley.

Their other children were; Carrie Alice, born in Northallerton, Yorkshire in 1880, Elizabeth, born in Chickenley in 1883, Ada, born in Ossett in 1885, Walter, born in Ossett in 1889 and Charles Henry, born in Chickenley in 1892.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Chickenley Lane, Chickenley, in 1901 at Ravens Street, Ravensthorpe, in 1911 at 26, Ryecroft Street, Ossett and later at 7, Beatson Street, Dewsbury.

Joshua was a single man who was educated at Ravensthorpe Church School and attended the Wesleyan Sunday school, North Road, Ravensthorpe. He worked as a Piecer in a Woollen Mill and later a Weftman at Messrs Mitchell and Company, Ings Mill, Ossett.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in 1916 into the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 6348, later transferring to the 1st/4th Battalion serving as Private 202884 and was sent to the Western Front later that year. He came home on leave in January 1918, returning to the front on the 30th. He was killed in action in Belgian Flanders on 13th April 1918; his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Joshua was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

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.

Joshua is also 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

Joshua Ward

202884, 1st/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 13 April 1918 Age 26

Son of Mrs. Eliza Ward, of 7, Beatson St., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Tyne Cot Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

WARD J. 202884