



Frank Collinson

1894-1918

Frank was born in Hanging Heaton on 25th August 1894 and was baptised on 7th October at St Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. His father was James Digby Collinson, a House Painter born in Middleham, Yorkshire in 1857 and died in 1942. His mother was Sarah (nee Squires) born in Hanging Heaton in 1863 and died in 1952. They were married on 9th August 1890 at St Paul's Church.

On the 1901 and 1911 Census the family lived at Chidswell Lane, Hanging Heaton.

Their other children were; William (Willie), born in 1891 and served in World War 1, Eva, born in 1893, Leonard, born in 1897 and served in World War 1.

Frank was a single man who was educated at Hanging Heaton Church Day School and was an attendee and choirboy at St. Paul's Church. He was employed by Messrs Joseph Wilson and Sons, Clothing Manufacturers, Batley Carr.

He enlisted in the London Regiment in November 1914 serving in the 23rd Battalion with the Service Number 5502 and was first sent to the Western Front in 1916 but from there he was sent to Salonika, serving in the Balkan Campaign and then spent 2 years in Beersheba serving in the Palestine Campaign. He returned to the Western Front and spent time home on leave in August 1918; at some stage his Service Number changed to 702283. He was killed in action when he was shot in the lungs in Belgian Flanders on 4th September 1918, and was buried in the field. In October 1919 his remains were reburied in Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Frank was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery is located 13 Kms south of Ypres (Ieper). It was begun in December 1914 by four battalions of the 5th Division and was called at first Wulverghem Dressing Station Cemetery. It was used until June 1917, and again in September and October 1918, and at the Armistice it contained 162 burials. Graves were then brought in from the surrounding battlefields and smaller burial grounds. There are now 1,010 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery of which 352 are unidentified.

Frank is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Hanging Heaton War Memorial in St. Paul's Churchyard and Memorial Plaque in St. Paul's Church.

In Memory of

Private

F Collinson

702283, 23rd Bn., London Regiment who died on 02 September 1918

Remembered with Honour

Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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