

Sam Wilson 1889-1918

Sam was born in Dewsbury on 25th November 1889. His father was Robert Wilson, a Blanket Raiser born in 1858 and died in a fire at Coxley Mill, Middlestown near Wakefield in 1906. His mother was Esther (nee Barrett) born in Dewsbury in 1860 and died in 1928. They were married on 26th July 1881 at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

Their other children were; Arthur, born in 1882, Eliza, born in 1883 and died in 1883, twins Ernest, born in 1886, Annie, born in 1886 and died in 1887, Rufus, born in 1893, Emma, born in 1897.

On the 1891 and 1901 Census Records, the family lived at Coxley and in 1911 at 40, Walker Street, Thornhill Lees and later at 103, Lees Hall Road, Thornhill Lees.

Sam was a single man who was employed as a Mason's Labourer at Ingham's Colliery, Thornhill.

He enlisted in February 1916 in the West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) with the Service Number 3855 and later as 201602 in the 1st/5th battalion rising to the rank of Lance Corporal; he was sent to the Western Front around summer 1916 and came home on leave in October 1917. He was killed in action in Belgian Flanders on 25th April 1918 but his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Sam 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.

Sam 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

Lance Corporal

Sam Wilson

201602, 1st/5th Bn., West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) who died on 25 April 1918 Age 28

Son of Mrs. Esther Wilson, of 103, Lees Hall Rd., Thornhill Lees. Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour Tyne Cot Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

