



## **Clarence Norton**

### **1885 – 1915**

Clarence was born in Leeds in 1885. His father was Edwin Norton, born in Leeds in 1852 and died in 1917. His mother was Rebecca (nee Fawbert) born in Pudsey in 1851 and died in 1914. They were married at St. Peter's Parish Church, Leeds on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1878.

Their other children were; Elizabeth, born in 1879, James, born in 1881, William Armistead, born in 1883, Fred, born in 1888 and Clara, born in 1891.

On the 1881 Census the family lived at Atkinson's Buildings, Town End, Pudsey, in 1891 at 9, Roseberry Terrace, Burley, Leeds and in 1901 and 1911 at 48, Ryecroft Street, Ossett.

Clarence worked as a Coal Miner at Low Laithes Colliery; he was married to Ellen Maud Rhodes (born in West Ardsley in 1887 and died in 1939) at Holy Trinity Church, Ossett on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1910. On the 1911 Census they are living at 21, Naylor Street, Streetside, Ossett. They had three children; Fred, born in 1911, Harry, born in 1912 and Annie, born in 1914.

Ellen was remarried in 1920 to a Willie Day, they lived at 30, Victoria Road, Dewsbury and had a daughter; Ruth Day, born in 1921 and died in 1921.

He enlisted in Dewsbury serving as Private 20986 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1915. He was killed in action near Ypres on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1915; his remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Clarence was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing is one of four British and Commonwealth memorials to the missing in the battlefield area of the Ypres Salient in Belgian Flanders. The memorial bears the names of 54,389 officers and men from United Kingdom and Commonwealth Forces (except New Zealand and Newfoundland) who fell in the Ypres Salient before 16<sup>th</sup> August 1917 and who have no known grave.

Clarence 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

## Clarence Norton

20986, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 07 May 1915 Age 29

Son of Edwin and Rebecca Norton, of Ryecroft St., Ossett, Yorks.; husband of Ellen Maud Day (formerly Norton), of 30, Victoria Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

NORTON C.