

Edwin was born in Dewsbury in 1885. His father was also Edwin Willett, a Cloth Finisher born in Earlsheaton in 1852 and died in 1884. His mother was Eliza Ann (nee Buckley) born in Earlsheaton in 1852 and died in 1924. They were married in 1876.

Their other children were; Edna, born in 1877 and died in 1917, John William, born in 1878 and died in 1898, Walter Herbert, born in 1880 and Mary Ellen, born in 1883 and died in 1910.

On the 1891 Census the family were living at Sands Road, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at Walker Street, Earlsheaton, in 1911 at Sheep Hill, Earlsheaton.

In 1901 Edwin was a French Polisher and in 1911 he was a Labourer on the railways. He was married to Edith Senior (born in 1886 and died in 1969) at St. James's Church, Heckmondwike on 11th July 1917. Following his marriage, he moved to 53, Upper George Street, Heckmondwike and later to 60, Church Street, Heckmondwike. They did not have any children.

He enlisted into the 4th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 205573 and saw service on the Western Front; he was later recalled to home service and was transferred into the 494th Company of the Labour Corps based in York, serving as Private 595084. He died of pneumonia and influenza (Spanish Flu) in York Military Hospital on 23rd November 1918 and was buried in Earlsheaton Cemetery. Edwin was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Edwin 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 Earlsheaton Park War Memorial and on the Memorial Plaque from the now demolished Earlsheaton Highfield Congregational Church relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury and on the Heckmondwike War Memorial in Green Park and in the Memorial Book located in Heckmondwike Library.

In Memory of

Private

Edwin Willett

205573, 4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 23 November 1918 Age 33

Husband of Edith Willett, of 60, Church St., Heckmondwike. Born at Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour Dewsbury (Earlsheaton) Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

