

Ernest was born in Dewsbury in 1883. His father was James Hudson Collier, a Commission Agent in Jute born in West Hartlepool, County Durham in 1849 and died in 1913. His mother was Sarah (nee Senior) born in Earlsheaton in 1850 and died in 1885. They were married at the Register Office, Hunslet, Leeds on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1868.

Their other children were; Adelaide Louisa, born in 1869, John Senior, born in 1871, James Arthur, born in 1872, Florence, born in 1875, Annie Gertrude, born in 1877, Alice Maude, born in 1878, Susannah, born in 1880 and Hilda Mary, born in 1882.

On the 1891 Census the family were living at Sugar Lane, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at 8, Belvedere Road, Batley and in 1911 at 9, Oxford Street, Batley.

James was remarried in Dewsbury in 1889 to Emily Brown (born in Peterborough in 1866 and died in 1906), they had three children; Algernon Sidney, born in 1889 and died in 1889, James Hamilton, born in 1891 and died in 1911 and Muriel Elisa, born in 1892.

Ernest worked as a Cotton Mill Hand and was married to Ethel Ives (born in Dewsbury in 1882 and died in 1945) at Kirkham Register Office, Fylde, Lancashire on 8<sup>th</sup> March 1905. They did not have any children. In 1907 they emigrated to the United States of America and in 1910 they lived at Middletown Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania where members of his wife's family were living. On 14<sup>th</sup> March 1915 they returned from the USA sailing from New York to Liverpool and lived at 41, Exley's Yard, Earlsheaton; in 1917 at 198, Raynor's Yard, Old Bank Road, Earlsheaton and in 1919 at 19, Caroline Street, Blackpool.

He enlisted on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1915 at Farnley Park, Leeds serving as Private 12/1501 in the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry; he was posted to Egypt on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1915 and later to the Western Front. He received a medical discharge on 7<sup>th</sup> November 1917 suffering from nephritis and was awarded a pension, being deemed to be no longer physically fit as a result of active service exposure and fatigue in France. He was awarded Silver War Badge number 12/1501 on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917 as his treatment required total incapacity for eight months, followed by an operation and hospital treatment for six months. He died at his home in Blackpool on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1919 from nephritis caused by war service. He was buried in Earlsheaton Cemetery. Ernest was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Ernest 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.



