

Eastwood was born on 6th November 1898 in Mullingar, Westmeath, Ireland. His father was Nathan Wilson, a Pre-War Soldier and later a Carboniser in a Shoddy Mill born in Gorton, Manchester in 1870 and died in 1940. His mother was Rose (nee Fitzpatrick) born in Naas, County Kildare, Ireland in 1881. They were married at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mullingar on 18th November 1896.

They had another son; Christopher, born in Mullingar in 1899 and died in 1921 in Rathkeale, Ireland.

On 19th January 1889, Nathan attested at Preston into the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment serving as Private 2663, giving his occupation as a Joiner; he was posted to Ireland and was stationed at a number of places and was at Mullingar in October 1893. He was promoted to Lance Corporal on 11th November 1893 and at the expiry of his service was transferred to the 1st Class Army Reserve on 29th February 1895. He was recalled to Army Service on 26th December 1899 and served in the South Africa Campaign (Boer War) from 6th March 1900 to 7th January 1902 and was discharged on 18th January 1902. Nathan was awarded the Queens South Africa Medal with Clasps for Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Transvaal.

On the 1901 Ireland census taken on 31st March, Eastwood is living in Mullingar with his maternal grandparents; Thomas, born in 1861 and Mary Anne, born in 1862. His mother, Rose and brother Christopher are also recorded.

There are no further records of his mother Rose, although there is an immigration record of a Rose Fitzpatrick age 19 who left Queenstown, Ireland on 5th September 1901 aboard HMS "Oceanic" bound for New York, USA. It has not been possible to determine whether or not this was his mother Rose Wilson.

Nathan was married in 1909 to Sarah Bradshaw (born in 1892 and died in 1955) they had four children; Frances/Fanny Elizabeth, born in 1910, Geoffrey, born in 1922, Vera, born in 1924 and Sheila, born in 1925.

On the 1911 census, Eastwood is working as a Hurrier below ground in a coal mine and living at 113, Howden Clough Road, Bruntcliffe, Morley with his father Nathan, stepmother Sarah, brother Christopher and half-sister Fanny Elizabeth. At the time of Eastwood's death, his family lived at Syke Ing Terrace, Earlsheaton and later at 6, Park Street, Park Square, Ossett.

He served as Driver13621 in 'C' Battery, 74th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery and died of Tubercular Meningitis on 20th June 1915 in Cahir Military Hospital, Tipperary, Ireland. He is buried in Cahir Military Plot in the Church of Ireland Churchyard. Eastwood did not receive any medal awards as he did not serve in an overseas war zone.

His death was announced in the Dewsbury Reporter on 26th June 1915. He had been training in Ireland. His father made the journey to the funeral, which was carried out with full military honours.

Eastwood 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 War Memorial in Earlsheaton Park and the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton.



