

Timothy Kenny 1893 - 1917

Timothy was born in Dewsbury on 15th December 1893. His father was Michael Henry Kenny, a Rag Grinder born in Dewsbury in 1856 and died in 1941. His mother was Jane Elizabeth (nee Kelly) born in Dewsbury in 1857 and died in 1933. They were married on 13th January 1883 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Westtown, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Maria Rose, born in 1883, Agnes Ellen, born in 1885, and died in 1886, Ann Gertrude, born in 1887 and died in 1889, Veronica, born in 1888 and died in 1889, Jane Elizabeth, born in 1891 and died in 1894, Ellen, born in 1896 and died in 1901 and Lillian Mary, born in 1898 and died in 1901.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 53, Thornton Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 37, Back Granville Street, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 37, Eastwood's Yard, Flatts, Dewsbury.

Timothy was educated at St. Paulinus School and attended the church, he worked for Messrs Graham and Cope, aniline dye, chemical and soap manufacturers, Globe Mills, Dewsbury. He was married on 12th June 1916 to Lottie Scargill (born in Thornhill in 1896 and died in Hong Kong in 1960); she was Captain of the 1st Dewsbury Girl Guides. They lived at 54, George Street, Wellington Road, Dewsbury and had a daughter, Mary Olga, born in 1916. Lottie was remarried in 1924 to Hubert Digby (born in 1889 and was drowned at sea on 21st February 1941 serving in the Royal Naval Patrol Service). They had a daughter, Iris, born in 1924.

He enlisted in November 1916 serving as Private 41279 in the 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was sent to the Western Front on 11th January 1917. He was killed along with 14 of his comrades by bombs dropped from German aircraft on 3rd April 1917, not far from the village of Savy, 6.5 kilometres west of the town of St. Quentin. His unit was resting behind the front line after combat. He was buried near to where he fell and in October 1920 he was reburied in Savy British Cemetery, Aisne, France. Timothy was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Savy was taken by the 32nd Division on 1st April 1917, after hard fighting, and Savy Wood on the 2nd. On 21st March 1918 Savy and Roupy were successfully defended by the 30th Division, but the line was withdrawn after nightfall. The village and the wood were retaken on 17th September 1918 by the 34th French Division, fighting on the right of the British IX Corps. Savy British Cemetery was made in 1919, and the graves from the battlefields and from small cemeteries in the neighbourhood. There are now over 850, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, more than half are unidentified.

Timothy 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 Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.

In Memory of

Private

T Kenny

41279, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 03 April 1917

Remembered with Honour Savy British Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

