



Edgar Kilburn

1895 – 1917

Edgar was born in Earlsheaton on 12th August 1895 and baptised at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 15th September of that year. His father was Charles Kilburn, a Sugar Boiler and Wholesale Confectioner born in 1868 in Dewsbury and died in 1928. His mother was Martha (nee Asquith) born in Earlsheaton in 1868 and died in 1923. They were married on 17th March 1888 at St. Philip's Church, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

Their other children were: George Alfred, born in 1888, Lena, born in 1891, Beatrice, born in 1893 and Percy, born in 1905.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Spring Gardens, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at Providence Street, Earlsheaton and in 1911 at Sykes Buildings, Providence Street, Earlsheaton.

Edgar was a single man who was educated at Earlsheaton Council School, he was also a boy chorister in St. Peter's Church choir and attended the Sunday school there. Subsequently he became connected with the Highfield Congregational Church and Sunday school. He served his apprenticeship with Mr. George Wilkinson, Draper, Bradford Road, Dewsbury, but shortly afterwards he went to work as a Gear Drawer at Messrs Joshua Ellis and Company's Mill in Batley Carr. At weekends, however, he assisted Mr. Wilkinson.

He enlisted in Dewsbury in November 1915 serving as Private 24792 in the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. He was wounded twice, once in July 1916 by shrapnel and once by a bullet on 16th August 1916 which injured his wrist and caused him to spend a period of a few months hospitalization in Bangor, North Wales. He was killed on 23rd April 1917 during the Battle of Arras. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. Edgar was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Arras Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7th August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

Edgar is also 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 War Memorial in Earlsheaton Park and on the Oak Reredos in St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the Memorial Plaque from the now demolished Earlsheaton Highfield Congregational Church relocated to Longcauseway Church, Dewsbury and on the War Memorial from the now demolished St. Philip's Church relocated to Dewsbury Minster.

In Memory of

Private

Edgar Kilburn

24792, 2nd Bn., Yorkshire Regiment who died on 23 April 1917 Age 21

Son of Charles and M. Kilburn, of 1, Charles St., Leeds Rd., Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

KILBURN E.