



## **Joseph Leo Eggett 1888-1918**

Joseph was born in Dewsbury in 1888. His father was Jesse Eggett, a Labourer born in Norwich in 1847 and died in 1900. His mother was Elizabeth (nee Burns) born in County Roscommon, Ireland around 1850 and died in 1924. They were married at St. Thomas's Church, Bradford on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1873.

Their other children were; George, born in Dewsbury in 1872, John, born in Halifax in 1874, Matthew, born in Bradford in 1875 and was killed in action 25<sup>th</sup> October 1918, Thomas, born in Rochdale in 1878, Elizabeth, born in Rochdale in 1880, Charles, born in Halifax in 1882, Jesse (I), born in Rochdale in 1880 and died in 1881, Jesse (II), born in Dewsbury in 1884, Lawrence, born in Dewsbury in 1886 and died in 1893 and James, born in Dewsbury in 1890. George, Charles, Jesse and James all served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 17, Carlisle Street, Dewsbury and in 1901 at 6, Hanover Street, Dewsbury.

Joseph worked as a Trammer in a colliery in 1911. On 31<sup>st</sup> March 1917 he was married to Lucy Maunder (born in 1890 and died in 1980) at St. Eustachius' Church, Tavistock, Devon; they lived at Cranmere Villa, Mary Tavy, near Tavistock and had a son, Joseph Harold, born in December 1917. Lucy was remarried in 1928 to Harold George Hillman (born in 1892 and died in 1964). They lived at 65, The Rock, Pilton, Barnstaple, Devon.

He enlisted on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1914 in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was transferred into the Royal Marine Light Infantry on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1914 and served in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force from 6<sup>th</sup> February 1915 and in the Gallipoli Campaign, being invalided home with dysentery on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1915. He was drafted into the British Expeditionary Force on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1916 and from 5<sup>th</sup> December 1916 to 5<sup>th</sup> February 1917 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Royal Marine Battalion; he then joined the 188<sup>th</sup> Labour Corps from 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1917 until 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1917 but was again invalided home suffering from an internal obstruction. Drafted once more on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1917 he was transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Marine Battalion, Royal Naval Division, Royal Marine Light Infantry serving as Private PLY/94(S). He was killed in action near Anneux, France on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1918 and was buried in Anneux British Cemetery, Nord, France. Joseph was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Anneux is a village in the Department of the Nord. It was recaptured on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1918, by the 57<sup>th</sup> (West Lancashire) and 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Divisions, acting with the 52<sup>nd</sup> (Lowland) and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Divisions. Anneux British Cemetery now contains 1,013 burials of the First World War. 459 of the burials are unidentified.

Joseph 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 at Mary Tavy, Devon.

In Memory of

Private

**J Eggett**

PLY/94(S), 1st R.M. Bn. R.N. Div., Royal Marine Light Infantry who died on 27 September 1918 Age 29

Husband of Lucy Eggett, of Cranmere Villa, Mary Tavy, Tavistock, Devon.

Remembered with Honour

**Anneux British Cemetery**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph by courtesy of Richard Houghton.