



George Herbert Guest

1890 – 1917

George was born on the 2nd December 1890 in Crackenedge Lane Dewsbury. His father was George Guest, a teamer born in Sharlston near Wakefield in 1843 and died in 1904. His mother was Sara Ann (nee Parkinson) born in Wakefield in 1847 and died in 1916. They were married in Wakefield in 1873.

Their other children were; Joseph, born in Dewsbury in 1874, Octavius, born in Dewsbury in 1876 and died in 1879 and Arthur, born in Dewsbury in 1884.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 17, Back Ridgeway Street, Eastborough, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 5, Back Ridgeway Street,

George was educated at Eastborough Council School and attended the Dewsbury Centenary Wesleyan Chapel on Daisy Hill, where he was married on 19th July 1913 to Florence Wench (born in 1890 and died in 1927); they did not have any children. At the time of enlistment he was a warehouseman in the employment of Messrs Ingham and Ward, Wool Merchants Bradford Road, Dewsbury. He was a prominent member of the Centenary Wesleyan Boys Brigade and his name appears on Mr. Turner's Young Men's Society Class book; he also played for the Centenary Wesleyan Cricket Club. Florence was remarried at the Centenary Wesleyan Chapel on 20th September 1919 to Willie Brooke (born in 1878 and died in 1926).

He attested in June 1915 serving as Private 21010 in the 70th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps He was sent to the Western Front in March 1917 and was killed in action in Belgian Flanders by shellfire on 7th June 1917 whilst removing a wounded man to safety. He was buried in Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He was for a long time nursing wounded soldiers in Chatham, Kent where his wife Florence also spent twelve months, rendering very useful service in the cookhouse at the hospital to which George was attached, but the work was almost too heavy for any woman to undertake, and reduced her physical strength so much that she was compelled to relinquish it in December 1916 and return to Dewsbury.

His headstone is inscribed with the words "Known To Be Buried In This Cemetery" which means that his original burial plot is not known or was probably destroyed in later actions. Six of his fellow RAMC men killed on the same day have the same inscription on their headstones. Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm) is located 2 Kms south-east of Ieper (Ypres) town centre. The commune of Zillebeke contains many Commonwealth cemeteries as the front line trenches ran through it during the greater part of the First World War. Railway Dugouts Cemetery is 2 Kms west of Zillebeke village, where the railway runs on an embankment overlooking a small farmstead, which was known to the troops as Transport Farm. The cemetery now contains 2,459 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. 430 of the burials are unidentified and 261 casualties are represented by special memorials.

George 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 Memorial Plaque to former pupils of Eastborough School and on the War Memorial on the outside wall of Dewsbury Centenary Wesleyan Church at the top of Daisy Hill.

In Memory of

Private

George Herbert Guest

21010, 70th Field Amb, Royal Army Medical Corps who died on 07 June 1917 Age 26

Son of George and Sarah Ann Guest, of Dewsbury; husband of Florence Brooke (formerly Guest), of 24, Crackenedge Lane, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm)



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

