



Harry Ross Eastwood MM

1893-1918

Harry was born in Ossett on 7th July 1893. His father was Frederick Eastwood, a Publican and later a Cloth Fuller born in Ossett in 1857 and died in 1911. His mother was Emma (nee Armitage) born in Netherton near Wakefield in 1865 and died in 1911. They were married on 21st October 1884 at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill.

Their other children were; Eric Norman, born in Netherton in 1886 and died in 1904, Herman, born in Netherton in 1887, William Gordon, born in Ossett in 1890, Nellie, born in Ossett in 1892, Frederick Eddison, born in Ossett in 1894 and was killed in action on 3rd May 1917, Dora, born in Ravensthorpe in 1899, Mary, born in Ravensthorpe in 1903 and Winnie, born in Ravensthorpe in 1905. Herman and William also served in World War 1.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at the Globe Inn, Bank Street, Ossett, in 1901 at Sackville Street, Ravensthorpe, in 1911 at 4, Sunset View, Ravensthorpe and later at 21, Duke Street, Ravensthorpe.

Harry was a single man who was educated at St. Saviour's School in Ravensthorpe attending the Church and playing for the football team, he was also a member of the Church Institute and Ravensthorpe Cycling Club. He worked as a Rug Weaver and later for the Yorkshire Electric Power Company.

He enlisted in Mirfield in 1914 along with his brother Fred in the 5th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) with the Service Number 240719, rising to the rank of Serjeant. He was sent to the Western Front in January 1917 and took part in Battle of Bullecourt near Arras where his brother Fred was killed. He later took part in the battle of Cambrai where he was awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry which was announced in the London Gazette on 13th March 1918. He was killed in action in France on 25th August 1918 and was buried in Douchy-les-Ayette British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Harry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal in addition to the Military Medal.

Ayette is a village some 13 kilometres south of Arras and Douchy-les-Ayette is 1 kilometre west of Ayette. The British Cemetery is opposite the Communal Cemetery on the north side of the road. It was enlarged after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from the battlefields of Arras and the Ancre and from other burial grounds. There are now over 700, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, nearly one-third are unidentified

Harry 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 Ravensthorpe War Memorial in St. Saviour's Church.

In Memory of

Serjeant

H R Eastwood

M M

240719, 5th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 25 August 1918 Age 24

Son of Frederick Eastwood, of 21, Duke St., Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Douchy-Les-Ayette British Cemetery



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

