



Harry Oddy

1890-1918

Harry was born in Dewsbury in 1890. His father was Robert Oddy, a carrier, born in Batley in 1864 and died in 1932. His mother was Esther (nee Martin) born in Witney, Oxfordshire in 1867 and died in 1933. They were married at St. Peter's Church, Birstall on 2nd June 1888.

Their other children were; Annie, born in 1893, Gladys May, born in 1900 and Elsie, born in 1908.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at 90, Knowles Hill Road, Dewsbury Moor, in 1901 at 81, Low Road, Dewsbury Moor and in 1911 at 69, Moorend Lane, Dewsbury Moor.

Harry worked as a butcher and later a milk dealer. He was married to Annie Pearson (born in 1887 and died in 1971) at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor on 26th June 1915. They lived at 14, School Lane, Dewsbury Moor and had a son, Leslie born in 1915. Annie was remarried in 1921 to Joseph Allan Hough (born in 1897 and died in 1958).

He enlisted on 7th February 1917 serving as Private 25590 in the 9th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) He was killed in action in France on 25th March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive (*Der Kaiserschlacht*). His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Arras Memorial to the Missing. Harry 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.

Harry 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 War Memorial in St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

In Memory of

Private

Harry Oddy

25500, 9th Bn., Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 25 March 1918 Age 28

Son of Robert and Esther Oddy, of 69, Moor End Lane, Dewsbury Moor; husband of Annie Oddy, of 14, School Lane, Dewsbury Moor, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

