



Clifford Moffatt

1896 -1916

Clifford was born in Dewsbury on 3rd November 1896 and baptized on 14th December 1896 in St Philip's Church, Leeds Road, Dewsbury. His father was David Moffatt, a letter carrier (postman) born in Dewsbury in 1873 and died in 1941. His mother was Annie Gertrude (née Collier) born in Dewsbury in 1877 and died in 1947. They were married in Dewsbury in 1895.

Their other children were; Edith, born in 1900, Hilda, born in 1902, Stanley, born in 1904 and died in 1920, Annie Gertrude, born in 1909 and Florence, born in 1916 and died in 1918.

On the 1901 Census the family were living at 5, Sharp Street, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 11, Fairfield Avenue, Earlsheaton and later at 192, Wakefield Road, Dewsbury.

Clifford was a single man and worked in the textile mill of Sir Mark Oldroyd and Sons Dewsbury.

He attested in August 1915 serving as Private 25242 in the 8th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 1st October 1916 at Le Sars during the Battle of the Somme. He had been carrying out the hazardous work of a signaller and had been wounded. He bravely stuck to his post for four hours, sending and transcribing messages all the time. After repeated appeals from his comrades he attempted to retire to a dressing-station and whilst doing so was killed instantaneously. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Clifford was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He was reported missing in January 1917 but his death was not confirmed until July 1917.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing 300 Commonwealth and 300 French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Clifford 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 Park War Memorial and on the Oak Reredos in St Peter's Church, Earlsheaton and on the War Memorial in the now demolished St. Philip's Church now displayed in Dewsbury Minster and on the Memorial Plaque in Eastborough School to former pupils.

In Memory of

Private

Clifford Moffatt

25242, 8th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 01 October 1916 Age 19

Son of David and Annie Gertrude Moffatt, of 192, Wakefield Rd., Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

MOFFATT C.