



Harold Senior 1893 – 1917

Harold was born in Earlsheaton on 11th September 1893 and was baptised at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton on 7th August 1895. His father was Herman Senior, a blanket weaver born in Dewsbury in 1869 and died in 1911. His mother was Ada (nee Hemingway) born in Dewsbury in 1870 and died in 1900. They were married on 20th April 1889 at St. Peter's Church.

Their other children were; Clifford, born in 1896 and died in 1900 and Clement, born in 1898 and died of wounds on 25th August 1917.

Following the death of his mother, Harold lived with his maternal grandmother Ellen Hemingway at Commercial Street, Earlsheaton. His father and brother Clement went to live with his paternal grandmother Ellen Senior at Cross Street, Earlsheaton.

Herman was remarried in 1904 to Hannah Maud Lee (born in 1878 and died in 1968). They had three children; Ethel, born in 1905, Alice, born in 1906 and Leslie, born in 1907 and died in 1912. On the 1911 Census Herman had died and Hannah and the family were living at 11, Jack Lane, Commonside, Dewsbury. On the 1921 Census Hannah and her daughters were living at 7, Hirst Place, Purlwell, Batley. (She signed her name as *Maud Senior*). Hannah was remarried in 1927 to Thomas Hayes (born in 1869 and died in 1930. She was remarried again in 1937 to William Norbury Popplewell (born in 1877 and died in 1940).

Harold was a single man whose occupation was recorded as a Dyer's Labourer.

He enlisted in Wakefield on 8th June 1911 joining the 3rd Reserve Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry with the Service Number 727. On 28th November 1911, He left the Reserves to join the 2nd Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment serving as Private 10180.

Harold appeared before a Court of Enquiry in Dublin on 17th July 1912, having been absent without leave and was 'deficient' of his equipment and 'regimental necessities'. No further information is known about the outcome of this Court of Enquiry or how long he was absent without leave.

He served as Private 242604 in the 1st/5th Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and was killed in action in Flanders on 19th July 1917; the enemy having commenced a sustained bombardment of Mustard Gas Shells on the Belgian coast around Nieuport. He was buried in Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen Belgium. Harold was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery is located 2 Kms east of Nieuwpoort (formerly Nieuport) on the road leading from Nieuwpoort to Sint Joris. From June to November 1917, Commonwealth Forces (XV Corps) held the front line in Belgium from St. Georges (now Sint Joris), near Ramscappelle to the sea. Most of Plot I of Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery was made in July and August 1917, but the cemetery was considerably enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields and smaller burial grounds. There are now 841 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 312 of the burials are unidentified, but special memorials commemorate two casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Also within this number are 26 special memorials to casualties originally buried at Nieuport or Nieuport-Bains whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.

Harold is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the 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 Batley War Memorial.

In Memory of

Private

H Senior

242604, 1st/5th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 19 July 1917

Remembered with Honour

Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

