



## **Stanley Lee**

### **1893 - 1916**

Stanley was born in Earlsheaton on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1893 and baptised on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1894 at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton. His father was George Lee, a mason's labourer, previously a carpet weaver born in Dewsbury in 1857 and died in 1930. His mother was Mary (née Lumb) born in Earlsheaton in 1857 and died in 1916. They were married at St. Peter's Church on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1877.

Their other children were; Ben, born in 1885 and died in 1887, Hannah, born in 1887 and died in 1911 and Lillian May, born in 1897.

On the 1891 Census the family lived at Hill End, Earlsheaton, in 1901 at Mount Pleasant, Earlsheaton and in 1911 at 13, Savile Grove, Savile Town.

Stanley was a single man who worked as an assistant tuner for Messrs Joshua Ellis, Batley Carr; he was a prominent playing member for the mill's cricket club for which he also acted as secretary. He was connected to St. Mary's Church in Savile Town.

He served as Private 29335 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, into which he attested in April 1916 and was sent to the Western Front in July. He was killed on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1916 during the attack on Beaumont Hamel, which was one of the last offensives of the Battle of the Somme. He was buried in Waggon Road Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel, Somme, France, near to where he fell. Stanley was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

His mother received the news of his death from his "pal" Private Milner Wilson of Earlsheaton who told of the Battalion being ordered to advance from the trenches; Stanley was hit in the stomach by machine-gun fire and his death was instantaneous. Milner Wilson himself was slightly wounded, but sadly died of wounds in Flanders on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1917, sustained during the Battle of Passchendaele.

Beaumont-Hamel is a village in the Department of the Somme. It was captured in November 1916, in the Battle of the Ancre, and the graves in this cemetery are largely those of men who died at that time. The burials were carried out by the V Corps in the spring of 1917, after the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line. Waggon Road Cemetery (originally V Corps Cemetery No.10) contains 195 First World War burials (36 unidentified), 46 of them belonging to the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Border Regiment, which attacked in the Ancre in both July and November 1916.

Stanley 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 War Memorial from the now demolished St. Mary's Church, Savile Town now displayed in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Private

**S Lee**

29335, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry Age 23

Son of George Lee, of 13, Saville Grove, Saville Town, Dewsbury.

Remembered with Honour

**Waggon Road Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel**



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

