

Joseph Robinson 1894 - 1917

Joseph was born in Ravensthorpe on 3rd August 1894 and was baptised on 10th October 1894 at St. Saviour's Church, Ravensthorpe. His father was Walter Robinson, a willeyer in a woollen mill born in Batley Carr in 1867 and died in 1931. His mother was Mary (nee Foster) born in Wortley, Leeds in 1866 and died in 1919. They were married on 1st September 1887 at the Bethel Congregational Chapel, Wortley.

Their other children were; Thomas (I), born in 1888 and died in 1888, Elizabeth, born in 1889, Harriet Ann, born in 1890, Thomas (II), born in 1893 and died in 1894, Harry, born in 1896, and served in World War 1, Edith, born in 1899, Flora Foster, born in 1902 and died in 1918, Amy, born in 1904, George Henry, born in 1906 and Edwin, born in 1910 and died in 1910.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at Fall Lane, Dewsbury, in 1911 at 5, Belgrave Street, Flatts, Dewsbury and later at 15, Cross Street, Gawthorpe, Ossett.

Joseph was a single man who was educated at Ravensthorpe Church of England School. He later worked in the boiling department at Messrs Slade and Bullock's confectionery works, Dewsbury.

He enlisted on 7th August 1914 into the 2nd Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 3/3112. He was twice wounded in action and came home on leave in June 1916. He was killed in action on 23rd November 1917 on Passchendaele Ridge and is buried in White House Cemetery, St. Jean-Les-Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Joseph was awarded The British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

White House Cemetery was begun in March 1915 and used until April 1918 by units holding this part of the line. It then comprised most of the present Plots I and II; but after the Armistice these Plots were completed, and III and IV added, when graves were brought in from the battlefields around Ypres (now Ieper) and from a number of small burial grounds. There are now 1,163 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 322 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 16 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of 28 casualties who were buried in other cemeteries, but whose graves could not be found on concentration.

Joseph is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library.



