



## **George Spedding**

### **1898 - 1917**

George was born in Dewsbury on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1898. His father was Arthur Spedding, a Corn and Hay Merchant, born in Dewsbury in 1860 and died in 1933. His mother was Edith Annie (nee Dobson) born in Wakefield in 1867 and died in 1917. They were married on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1892 at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

Their other children were; Arthur, born in 1893 and Thomas Reginald, born in 1894,

On the 1901 Census they lived at "Acacia Villa" 5, Wakefield Road, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 2, Oakley Villas, Oxford Road, Dewsbury.

George was a single man who was educated at Wheelwright Grammar School and then became a boarder at Framlingham College in Suffolk with his two brothers. After leaving there he continued his education at Bradford Grammar School. He was a regular worshipper at St. John the Evangelist Church, Dewsbury Moor.

He worked with his father in the hay and straw business before enlisting on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1915. He was a keen rider which probably influenced his decision to first join a cavalry regiment, the Scottish Horse serving as Acting 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, based at Dunkeld, Perthshire until December 1916; whilst stationed there he saved the life of a colleague from drowning. He then trained at Cambridge and was commissioned into the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (Territorial Force) on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1917 and was sent to the Western Front on 12<sup>th</sup> June 1917. He was killed in action by a shell burst on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1917 near Bapaume in France and was buried in Favreuil British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. George was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

A letter sent informing him of the death of his mother was received by him on the morning of the day he was killed.

George 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 in St. John the Evangelist Church and on the Memorial Plaque to former pupils of Wheelwright Grammar School and on the War Memorial Plaque in the Chapel of Framlingham College, Suffolk.

In Memory of  
Second Lieutenant

# George Spedding

2nd/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 20 August 1917 Age 19

Son of Arthur and Edith Annie Spedding, of 2, Oakley Villas, Oxford Rd., Dewsbury,.

Remembered with Honour  
Favreuil British Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

