



## **Patrick Kenny**

### **1880 – 1915**

Patrick was born in Dewsbury on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1880. His father was Francis Kenny, a Mason's Labourer born in Castlerea, County Roscommon, Ireland around 1847 and died in 1911. His mother was Bridget (nee Tarpey) born in Castlerea around 1850 and died in 1904. They were married on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1873 at Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Thomas, born in 1873 and was killed in action in 1897 in the Tirah Campaign on the North-West Frontier of India, Mary Ellen, born in 1874, Annie, born in 1878, Jane, born in 1882 and died in 1886, Timothy, born in 1884 and died in 1886, Katie, born in 1886, Jane, born in 1887, Frank, born in 1889, Timothy, born in 1891 and died of wounds on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1916 and Lily, born in 1895.

On the 1881 and 1891 Census Records the family lived at 66, Middle Road, Westtown, in 1901 at 64, Wilman Road, Westtown and in 1911 at 60, Middle Road.

Patrick worked as a Labourer and was in the Militia when he enlisted into the Coldstream Guards and served as Private 2087 from 18<sup>th</sup> October 1898 until 17<sup>th</sup> October 1910. He was sent to fight in the South Africa Campaign (Boer War) from 19<sup>th</sup> March 1900 to 4<sup>th</sup> October 1902. He was awarded the Queen's South African Medal with Clasps for Cape Colony, Orange Free State, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill and Belfast (Bergendal) plus the King's South African Medal with Clasps for 1901 and 1902.

He was married in August 1910 to Mary Ellen Melody (born in 1885 and died in 1957). They had two children: Ellen, born in 1912 and Thomas, born in 1914. The family lived at 3, Blenheim Place, Eightlands, Dewsbury. Mary Ellen was remarried in 1921 to John Henry (born in 1875 and died in 1931). Prior to enlisting he worked for Messrs Ingram and Richardson, Bradford Road, Dewsbury.

Being a National Reservist he was recalled at the outbreak of the war, enlisting in Dewsbury and serving as Private 3/3598 in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, he was sent to the Western Front on 4<sup>th</sup> August 1915. He was killed in action in Flanders on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1915. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Patrick was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal.

According to the local newspaper report about his death, Patrick wrote his last letter home to his family on the day of his death. He wrote poignantly: *"I am very pleased to tell you I came out of the trenches all right again, but we were very lucky. We were in for eight days, and I don't want to have another as long as I live. People at home would go mad if they knew how we were suffering. I can't make you realise what we have to go through. We have had some terrible weather out here, raining for eight days and up to the knees in sludge and water"*.

Patrick 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 War Memorial in Our Lady and St. Paulinus Church.

In Memory of

Private

**Patrick Kenny**

3/3598, 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 07 September 1915

Remembered with Honour  
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

KENNY P.