



William Albert Pamment

1896 – 1917

William was born in Dewsbury in 1896. His father was Charles Pamment, a Teamer born in Isleham, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire in 1856 and died in 1929. His mother was Sarah Ellen (Nee Robinson) born in Denby Dale near Huddersfield in 1859 and died in 1898. They were married on 21st December 1878 at All Saints Church, Dewsbury.

Their other children were; Mary Elizabeth, born in 1879, Joseph Arthur, born in 1881 and died in 1895, Annie, born in 1882, Ernest, born in 1885 and died in 1885, John Edward, born in 1887, Harry, born in 1889 and died in 1889, Gilbert, born in 1890, Charles, born in 1893 and served in World War 1.

In 1891 the family lived at 26, Back Belgrave Street, Dewsbury, in 1901 at 9, Belgrave Street and in 1911 at 38, Halliley Street, Flatts.

William was a single man who attended Carlton Road School and Granville Street Wesleyan Mission Sunday school. Prior to enlistment he worked at Messrs J and J Horsefield, boiler makers in Vulcan Road, Dewsbury. In 1911 he was a chain lad for the London and North Western Railway Company and later for five years at Messrs Kilner Brothers, Glass Bottle Makers in Thornhill Lees.

He enlisted in August 1915 into the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry serving as Private 25185 and was transferred to the 2nd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment in December 1915 serving as Private 19547. He was sent to Mesopotamia in January 1916 where he contracted fever and spent eight months in hospital in Bombay, India; rejoining his regiment in January 1917. He was killed in action on 23rd April 1917 in the Samarra Offensive. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. William was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Basra Memorial commemorates more than 40,500 members of the Commonwealth forces who died in the operations in Mesopotamia from the Autumn of 1914 to the end of August 1921 and whose graves are not known. The memorial was designed by Edward Warren and unveiled by Sir Gilbert Clayton on the 27th March 1929. Until 1997 the Basra Memorial was located on the main quay of the naval dockyard at Maqil, on the west bank of the Shatt-al-Arab, about 8 kilometres north of Basra. Because of the sensitivity of the site, the Memorial was moved by presidential decree. The move, carried out by the authorities in Iraq, involved a considerable amount of manpower, transport costs and sheer engineering on their part, and the Memorial has been re-erected in its entirety. The Basra Memorial is now located 32 kilometres along the road to Nasiriyah, in the middle of what was a major battleground during the first Gulf War.

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

In Memory of

Private

William Pamment

19547, 2nd Bn., Leicestershire Regiment who died on 23 April 1917

Remembered with Honour

Basra Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Photograph by courtesy of Ben Soppitt.