



Herbert Conrad Heaton

1883 – 1917

Herbert was born in Grange Moor in 1883. His birth name was registered as *Herbert Connor Heaton*. His father was Thomas Hirst Heaton, a card cleaner born in Kirkheaton, Huddersfield in 1853 and died in 1922. His mother was Caroline (nee Hinchcliffe) born in Dewsbury in 1856 and died in 1922. They were married in Dewsbury in 1878.

Their other children were; Ann Hinchcliffe, born in 1879, Wilfrid William, born in 1881, George Frederick, born in 1885, Clara Jane, born in 1892, Doris Harriet, born in 1895 and died in 1896 and Edith, born in 1901.

On the 1881 Census they lived at Grange Moor, in 1891, 1901 and 1911 at 14, Fearnley Street, Westtown.

Herbert was educated at St. Matthew's School in Westtown and was a member of the Young Men's Bible Class at Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees. He was married to Margaret Ann Hallas (born in 1883 and died in 1953) at Holy Innocents Church on 9th March 1905. At the time of his marriage, Herbert was working as a Teamer but later worked at Ingham's Coke Ovens in Thornhill. They had three sons; John, born in 1907 and died in 1907, Jack, born in 1908 and Herbert Stanley, born in 1916. At the time of Herbert's death, the family lived at Mount Pleasant, Edge Top, Thornhill.

He enlisted in Dewsbury on 15th September 1915 and originally served with the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and later as Private 22457 with the 6th Battalion East Lancashire Regiment. He was sent to Mesopotamia in April 1916, where he died of Enteric Fever on 4th July 1917 and was buried in Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq. Herbert was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery was begun in April 1917 and has been greatly enlarged since the end of the First World War by graves brought in from other burial grounds in Baghdad and northern Iraq, and from battlefields and cemeteries in Anatolia where Commonwealth prisoners of war were buried by the Turks. At present, 4,160 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War are commemorated by name in the cemetery, 273 Special Memorials represent men who were buried as prisoners of war in recorded graves which could not be found. Unidentified burials from this period number 2,729.

Herbert 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. Michael and All Angels Church, Thornhill and on the War Memorial in Holy Innocents Church, Thornhill Lees.

In Memory of

Private

H C Heaton

22457, 6th Bn., East Lancashire Regiment who died on 04 July 1917

Remembered with Honour

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Headstone photograph taken by Hussam Saad
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