

James Senior



Rank: - Gunner

Number: - 11261126

Regiment: - Royal Artillery 72 (Hampshire) H.A.A. Regt.

Died: - Died of wounds in an Italian Hospital 27/07/1944 Age: 38 years.

Cemetery: - Naples War Cemetery, Italy I. C. 9.


James was born in Batley on the 14 June 1907 the son of Albert and Louisa Senior nee Peace who had married on 23 July 1898 at St. Nicholas Church, Cumberworth. In 1911 the family was living at 52, Talbot Street, Batley. He attended Broomhill Methodist Church in nearby Taylor Street. He was educated at Purlwell Council School, Batley. His father died in 1923.

James was living at 56, Talbot Street, Batley on the 11 June 1933 when he married Florrie Hird of 42, High Street, Hanging Heaton, at St. Paul's Church, Hanging Heaton. James, Florrie and his mother lived at 662, Leeds Road, Shaw Cross before 1939. He worked in the finishing department of Messrs. J.T. & J. Taylor's, Cheapside Mills, Batley and was a member of Hanging Heaton Working Men's Club.

James joined the Forces in 1941 going to North Africa, according to newspaper reports, in October 1943, Sicily and Italy.

SHAW CROSS GUNNER'S DEATH IN ITALY

Gunner James Senior (38), R.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Senior, 662, Leeds Road, Shaw Cross, and the late Mr. Senior, died in an Italian hospital on July 27th.



Joining the Forces three years ago, Gunner Senior went to North Africa in October, 1943, and later to Sicily and Italy. He was educated at Purlwell Council School, Batley, and employed in the finishing department of Messrs. J., T. and J. Taylor's Cheapside Mills, Batley. He attended Broomhill Methodist Church and was a member of Hanging Heaton W.M.C.

James Senior.

Batley News, 19 Aug 1944

On 3 September 1943 the Allied invaded mainland Italy, the invasion coinciding with an armistice made with the Italians who then re-entered the war on the Allied side. The Allied objectives were to draw German troops from the Russian front and more particularly from France.

The 72 Hampshire's went to Naples in October 1943. We have not managed to ascertain when James was injured or to which hospital he was sent, but the 65th and 92nd General Hospitals were in Naples from late 1943 until the end of the war as was the 67th General Hospital for the greater part of the time. The site of the cemetery was chosen in November 1943 and burials were made from the hospitals and the garrison.

Florrie married Bill Scaife in 1945 and went to live at Batley Carr.

James is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial Addenda and was awarded the 1939-45 Star and the 1939-1945 War Medal.

REST IN PEACE



Researched by members of
Batley History Group