

## Bernard Stenchion



**Rank:** - Private

**Number:** - 14895082

**Regiment:** - Army Air Corps

**Died:** - Died the result of an accident 15/06/1945 Age: 18 years

**Cemetery:** - Batley Cemetery Sec. S. Grave 816.

Batley News, 23 Jun 1945 (photo)

Bernard was born in Batley in 1926 the youngest son of Thomas and Catherine Stenchion formerly Gavaghan nee Donlan who had married in 1918. Thomas's wife had died in 1914 and they had six children whilst James Gavaghan was killed in the First World War leaving his wife with two children, Molly and Peter who was killed on 12 June 1944. The family lived at 24, Ambler Street, Batley.

Patrick was born in 1919 followed by Catherine 1920, Edward 1922, Joseph Patrick 1925, and Bernard. Bernard attended St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church and was an old boy of the school and a member of the football team. He was employed at Messrs. M. Linsey & Co. Ltd., Bulrush Mills until he joined the forces around Christmas 1944.

He was training as a paratrooper on the Isle of Wight when there was an accident and he was killed by a bullet in his chest and he had a fractured thigh. He was brought home to be buried in Batley Cemetery and the funeral took place on Wednesday, 20 June with military honours. Rev. Father O' Mahoney officiated. A contingent of troops from his regiment acted as bearers were Paratroopers Silsdon, Hey, Sherington, Savill, Bellairs and Sgt. Goff.

Bernard was awarded the 1939-45 Star; 1939-1945 War Medal.

He is remembered with Honour at Batley War Memorial Addenda.



Researched by members of  
Batley History Group

## YOUNG PARATROOPER ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

### Military Funeral at Batley

While training in the Isle of Wight as a paratrooper Pte. Bernard Stenchion (18), of Batley, was accidentally killed. The only details to hand are that a bullet was found in his chest and he sustained a fractured thigh.

His parents' request that the remains should be sent home for interment was complied with, and the funeral, which was accorded military honours, took place on Wednesday at Batley Cemetery, Rev. Father O'Mahoney officiating.



Bernard Stenchion.

A contingent of troops from the regiment, who acted as bearers, were Paratroopers Silsdon, Hey, Sherington, Savill, Bellairs and Sergt. Goff.

Family mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. T. Stenchion, parents; Mr. E. Stenchion, brother; Mrs. C. Foley and Miss Nellie and Teresa Stenchion, sisters; Mr. and Mrs. John Stenchion, Stokey and Mrs. J. Stenchion, and Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Stenchion, brothers and sisters-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. H. Nevell and Mr. and Mrs. W. Heaton, sisters and brothers-in-law; Mrs. P. Gavaghan, sister-in-law; Mrs. P. Stenchion (also representing her husband, Corpl. Stenchion, serving in Germany); Mr. and Mrs. M. Donlan, uncle and aunt; Mrs. Logan, Mrs. A. Kelly and Mrs. Finneran, aunts; Mr. and Mrs. S. McQuinn, Pts. Rush, Mr. R. Cunningham, Meademes Malainy, M. Bulker, E. Smith, Finneran, K. Maloney, R. Donlan, C. Carney, Misses T. Rush, W. Cogan, M. and K. Donlan, A. Smith, T. Smith, E. Hanan, B. Ramsbottom, K. and M. Finneran, cousins.