

Leonard Wrighton



Rank: - Trooper

Number: - 14992892

Regiment: - Royal Tank Regiment, R.A.C. 1st Bn.

Died: - Died of Wounds, 17/12/1945 Age: 20 years.

Cemetery: - Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Berlin, Germany 3.E.8

Leonard was born on 28 September 1925 the only son of Frank and Lillian Wrighton nee Senior who had married on 12 July 1924 at St. Thomas s Church, Batley. They lived at 8, Wellington Street, Batley. He and his mother later lived at 32, Talbot Row, Batley.

Leonard was an assistant cashier at Messrs Chas. Robinson and Co. Ltd. before he joined the Royal Navy in November 1943, later transferring to the Army in September 1944, and had been in Germany since April 1945.

The official communication stated Leonard had been killed "By a penetrating bullet wound" but a letter a letter came from his Commanding Officer which said,

"I could not ask for a finer and more upright type of boy. He died of wounds which he received whilst returning from Berlin on the night of December 18th. As you may have read in the daily papers, a lorry in which he was travelling was shot at by Russian soldiers whilst trying to overtake a convoy."

**SHOTS FROM RUSSIAN
ARMY LORRY**

**Trooper Leonard Wrighton
Killed in Berlin**

Mrs. L. Wrighton, of 32, Talbot Row, Batley, has been informed by the Record Office that her only son, Trooper Leonard Wrighton, Royal Tank Regiment, has been killed in Western Europe.

The official communication states that Trooper Wrighton was killed by "a penetrating bullet wound," and in a letter the Commanding Officer says, "I could not ask for a finer and more upright type of boy. He died of wounds which he received whilst returning from Berlin on the night of December 18th. As you may have read in the daily papers, the lorry in which he was travelling was shot at by Russian soldiers whilst attempting to overtake a convoy."

The letter adds that Trooper Wrighton was buried with full military honours in Berlin.

Formerly assistant cashier at Messrs. Chas. Robinson and Co., Ltd., Trooper Wrighton was 29 years of age and had been in the Forces since November, 1943, when he joined the Royal Navy. He was transferred to the Army the following September and had been in Germany eight months.

Batley News, 29 Dec 1945;
30 Sep 1944 (photo)

The letter also said that Leonard was buried the following day, in Berlin, with full military honours.

A LOVING SMILE, A HAPPY FACE, A BROKEN LINK WE CAN NEVER REPLACE

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



Researched by members of
Batley History Group