WILLIAM FRANCIS EVANS

Private 14559

7th Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry died on Wednesday 14th July 1916 aged 22

WILLIAM FRANCIS EVANS is commemorated on the THIEPVAL MEMORIAL France

Additional information in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Register

Son of John and Fanny Evans, of Bounds Pitch, Much Marcle, Dymock, Glos.

On 1 July 1916, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. The German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, copse and farmhouse gained. At the end of September, Thiepval was finally captured. The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.

William Evans is commemorated on Pier and Face 12A and 12D.



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William Francis Evans was born Upton Bishop in 1895. He was one of seven children of John and Fanny Elizabeth Evans. John was a farm labourer and the family moved first to Baynhams, Yatton where John was a carter on a farm. By the 1911 census the family were living at Bounds Pitch and both William and his father were farm labourers. William enlisted into the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and went with the 7th Battalion to France in September 1915. He was killed in action during the Battle of the Somme in July 1916 and he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. Herbert Webb is also commemorated there.