

## **Herts at War**

([www.hertsatwar.co.uk](http://www.hertsatwar.co.uk))

**Name:** Arthur Henry Appleby  
**Rank:** Private  
**Service Number:** M2/269001  
**Date of Death:** 25<sup>th</sup> December 1916  
**Age:** 22  
**Regiment/Service:** Motor Transport Army Service Corp  
**Award:**  
**Grave/Memorial Reference:** Section E Grave 810  
**Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin Cemetery  
**UK Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church. Panel A  
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)  
Holy Saviour Church War Memorial, Radcliffe Rd., Hitchin



### **Pre War:**

Arthur was born in Hitchin but at the time of his enlistment in Hitchin was a resident of Bedford. His home was at 52, Nightingale Road, Hitchin and he married at Easter 1916. He was the son of Arthur William and Agnes Ellen Appleby.

He was a member of a firm of cycle and motor engineers at 52, Nightingale Road, Hitchin. He had served in the Territorials for four years and was mobilised with the Hertfordshire Regiment in August 1914, going to France soon after the war commenced. He later joined the motor reserve.

### **Wartime Service:**

By 1916 he was a time expired man and he obtained a three-month exemption from the Tribunal before being called up again. When he was called up he went into the R.A.S.C. (Royal Army Service Corps). His Regimental Number was M2/269001. At one time he was driving in a convoy of ten lorries carrying much needed ammunition and came under heavy shellfire. The lorries were left in a lane and an officer asked for volunteers to drive them out. Henry offered and drove nine of them a mile under shellfire. One of those present said that it was "cold-blooded heroism and cool daring".

He was stationed on Salisbury Plain when he contracted spotted fever (typhus) and he died in hospital of cerebrospinal meningitis. He was buried in Hitchin Cemetery Grave E810.

### **Additional Information:**

### **Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

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