

## **Herts at War**

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**Name:** Eric Henry Platt Bailey

**Rank:** Flight Lieutenant

**Service Number:**

**Date of Death:** 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918

**Age:** 20

**Regiment/Service:** 206 Squadron R.A.F

**Award:**

**Grave/Memorial Reference:** D.5

**Cemetery/Memorial:** Linselles Communal Cemetery, France

**UK Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin Boys Grammar School WW1 Memorial, Stained Glass Window, School Library. Grammar School Walk, Hitchin.

### **Pre War:**

He was the son of James Henry and Esther Bailey of 43, Ridgeway, Enfield, Middlesex. Mr Bailey was a Civil Engineer. He was born on the 25th March 1898 and attended the Hitchin Grammar School from 1911-1913 having previously attended Letchworth C. C. School. During his childhood he lived with his parents at 'Cleveland', Baldock Road, Letchworth. He left school to go to the City of London School.

### **Wartime Service:**

He was gazetted as having been granted a commission by the Spring of 1918. He flew De Havilland DH9s with 206 Squadron based at Alquines which is between Boulogne and St. Omer in France. From the 1st November 1917 the Squadron had been known as 6 (Naval) Squadron and was redesignated 206 Squadron when the R.A.F. was formed on the 1st April 1918.

At some time between the 29th July and the 4th August 1918 he and a 2nd Lieutenant R. Milne brought down an enemy aircraft. On the 11th August, only three months to the day before the Armistice, he was killed whilst flying in the Linselles area where there was also an airfield.

At first he was reported as missing in action, but the intimation of his death followed a few weeks later.

He is buried in Grave D.5 in the Linselles Communal Cemetery which is near Roubaix in France.

### **Additional Information:**

Son of James and Esther Bailey of 43 The Ridgeway, Enfield, Middlesex.

### **Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

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