

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: George Barker
Rank: Private
Service Number: 29236
Date of Death: 24th April 1917
Age: 34
Regiment/Service: 13th Battalion Essex Regiment
Award: He was entitled to the British War and Victory medals.
Grave/Memorial Reference: II. D. 34.
Cemetery/Memorial: AUBIGNY COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION, France
UK Cemetery/Memorial: Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Panel A
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)
Pre War:

He was born in Hitchin and before joining up was employed by Mr G.W. Souster, the builder of Letchworth.

His home was 15, Sunnyside, Hitchin and he was the eldest son of Mr & Mrs George Barker of Cannon's Cottages, Hitchin. He left a wife, Elizabeth, and three children, the eldest of whom was 12 and the youngest 5 years of age

Wartime Service:

He enlisted in January 1916 and went to France in the following December. Initially he was in the Royal Engineers but was later moved to the 13th Battalion of the Essex Regiment and was allocated Regimental Number 29236. The Battalion was part of 6th Brigade of the 2nd Division of XIII Corps in the 1st Army. He fought on the Somme and at Ypres and was later wounded in Arras. Records state that he died at a base hospital in France, though it is more probable to have been at one of the four Casualty Clearing Stations in the Aubigny area at that time.

His injuries were probably sustained during the First Battle of the Scarpe or the attacks in the vicinity of Vimy Ridge between the 9th and 14th April 1917.

He is buried in Plot 2, Row D, Grave 34 in the Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension in France. A private inscription on the headstone reads "*Shall we forget him, never. God bind our hearts together until we meet again*".

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne
David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

