

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: Harold Barker
Rank: Private
Service Number: TR/161734
Date of Death: 4th November 1918
Age: 18
Regiment/Service: 53rd Btn The Queen's
(Royal West Surrey Regiment)
Award:
Grave/Memorial Reference: Section W Grave 165
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*)



Pre War:

Harold was the eldest son of Alfred Barker and lived at 2, Cambridge Terrace and 77, Walsworth Road, Hitchin. He attended Hitchin Boys British School

Before the war he was employed by P.H. Barker & Son, timber merchants and joiners of Hitchin. He was a resident of Hitchin, but enlisted in Bedford.

Wartime Service:

His Regimental Number was TR161734 and, at the time of his death, he was still in training in the 53rd Young Soldiers Battalion. He joined the Army on the 23rd October 1918 and had only been in the service for two weeks when he contracted influenza which was raging in epidemic proportions at the time. He died of double pneumonia in St. Alban's Hospital and is buried in Hitchin Cemetery at Grave W.165.

His Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone bears the additional inscription "*Gone from sight but not from memory*".

Additional Information:

He was a boyhood friend of George Ryall. They enlisted on the same day and died in the same hospital within twenty-four hours of each other.

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

