

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: John Farr
Rank: Private
Service Number: 38860
Date of Death: 12th September 1917
Age: 25
Regiment/Service: 8th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment



Award:
Grave/Memorial Reference: II. D. 15.
Cemetery/Memorial: ST. PATRICK'S CEMETERY, LOOS, FRANCE.
UK Cemetery/Memorial: Hitchin War Cemetery, St Mary's Church
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)
British Schools Museum, Hitchin

Pre War:

He was born in Buntingford, resided in Hitchin and was a marine stores dealer. He was single and was the brother of Mrs Maylin of 4, Gascoigne's Yard, Queen Street, Hitchin. His father had been the licensee of the Globe Public House, Hitchin. He enlisted in Bedford in April 1916.

Wartime Service:

John was given the Regimental Number 33860 in the 8th Battalion of the Bedfords, although he had at one time been in the Essex Regiment with the Regimental Number 6347. His Commonwealth War Graves Commission gravestone shows the Number as 38860. He went to France on the 26th December 1916, was wounded and was later killed in action in Frances by a shell "*which brushed close to him*".

At around the time of his death the 8th Battalion was at Bois Hugo on the northern slopes of Hill 70 (Loos) engaged in raiding the enemy lines. During this time they were shelled with considerable quantities of gas as well as by high explosives. On the 12th September the Battalion were in trenches, reasonably quiet during the day though aircraft were active at night. 'B' Company took position in trenches opposite the enemy line to be raided on the 13/14th September. The usual night firing resulted in three or four killed and six wounded.

He is buried in Plot II, Row D, Grave 15, St. Patrick's Cemetery, Loos.

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

