

## **Herts at War**

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

**Name:** Charles Walker  
**Rank:** Private  
**Service Number:** 4/7383  
**Date of Death:** 20<sup>th</sup> June 1915  
**Age:**  
**Regiment/Service:** 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment



**Award:**  
**Grave/Memorial Reference:** Panel 31 and 33  
**Cemetery/Memorial:** YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL, BELGIUM  
**UK Cemetery/Memorial:** Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Hitchin  
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)  
Not on the Willian Memorial

### **Pre War:**

Born in Willian, he was a resident of Hitchin and enlisted there. He was a married man with five children and was the brother in law of Private L.M. Pateman who was killed in action on the 17th February 1917. His home was in Chapman's Yard, Hitchin.

### **Wartime Service:**

Charles was allocated the Regimental Number 4/7383. He was posted to the 1st Battalion of the Regiment and killed in action in Belgium.

At the time of his death, the 1st Battalion was in the Ypres Salient and throughout June alternated between the front line on Hill 60 and in support on the railway embankment. On the 20th June 1915 two mines were exploded under the British trenches, but did not cause casualties among the Bedfords. However, the trenches were badly damaged, which no doubt resulted in casualties from shellfire later.

He has no known grave, but is remembered on Panels 31 & 33 of the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing at Ypres in Belgium.

### **Additional Information:**

### **Acknowledgments:**

Adrian Dunne  
David C Baines

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