

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC 'E' Edgar STOKES

Private 7514
1st battalion Northamptonshire Regiment
Died in Belgium 31st October 1914



Edgar was born June 1887 in Drayton, Leicester to George Thomas and Elizabeth (nee Wilson). His father was a baker

In July 1904, Edgar enlisted in the East Yorkshire Regiment and was stationed at Beverley

On 24th August 1904, Edgar was transferred to the 2nd battalion Northamptonshire Regiment

On 6th November 1904, Edgar transferred to the 1st battalion of Northamptonshire Regiment at Colchester where he was declared fit for service in India

On 11th October 1911, Edgar joined Birmingham City Police as a 24-year-old groom. He served on the E Division with warrant number 7909

Edgar was killed in action and a local newspaper reported he had been shot in the chest

It also reported that Edgar's brother Arthur had also lost his life

The Grantham Journal dated 21st November 1914 reported

*Uppingham and the war
Brothers killed in battles on land and sea*

The little village of Drayton, Uppingham, which has seen its quota to defend our country mourns the loss of two brave men, and is experiencing the heaviest blow which has fallen on any Parish in the immediate district as a result of the war. But the saddest part of the tragic news is that the slain warriors are brothers, sons of Mr and Mrs G T Stokes who are very respected inhabitants.

Arthur Stokes was on HMS Good Hope, sunk in action off Chilli; and Edgar Stokes, who belonged to the 1st Northampton's was killed near Ypres, by a bullet wound through the chest.

The upmost sympathy has been extended to the bereaved parents in their great trouble, and they have the gratification of knowing that their sons died in a noble cause fighting for their native land.

Edgar is commemorated on Menin Gate memorial, Ypres, Belgium panels 43 45

Sincere thanks to Edgar's great niece Val Westwood for her correspondence with regards to Edgar, and also to her great uncle who is currently 98 years of age and also named Edgar