

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC B Edward George ROSSITER MM

Sergeant 34526
120th Bty 27th Bde Royal Field Artillery
Died in France 22nd April 1917

On the Roll of Honour, Edward's middle initial is shown as J and not G

Edward was born in 1887 in Shepton Mallet, the son of the late Mr E. and the late Mrs. Rossiter, and he was a resident of Bournemouth

On 6th June 1904 Edward, an 18-year-old draper's porter, enlisted at Bournemouth into the Royal Field Artillery. He served in India from 18th October 1906 until his return home on 23rd December 1910, and on 5th June 1912 he was transferred to the 1st Class Army Reserve

On 10th June 1912 Edward joined Birmingham City Police as a 24-year-old reservist. He was issued with warrant number 8237 and posted to the B division

In the second quarter of 1914 Edward married Alice Miriam (nee Latta) who was born in Dorset. They were married in Birmingham and they resided at 7, The Dell, Dairy Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham

On 4th August 1914 Edward was recalled to HM Forces and served with the Royal Field Artillery and embarked for France on 17th August 1914

On 6th March 1915 Edward was promoted to bombardier and promoted to corporal in July 1915

On 15th September 1916, Edward was promoted to sergeant in the field

Edward was awarded the Military Medal in November 1916 for his actions as a corporal during the Battle of the Somme

The Birmingham Daily Post newspaper dated 4th December 1916 confirmed Edward was the recipient of the Military Medal (*but wrongly named him Edwin*)

"Edwin George Rossiter of the 'B' Division promoted Sergeant in the battleground. He had twice been mentioned in despatches for repairing wires and keeping up the communications during a heavy fire. He is a member of the Royal Field Artillery

On 21st April 1917 Edward was wounded in action and suffered a shotgun wound to his abdomen and back. He was taken to Casualty Clearing station 42 in Aubigny, where he died the following day

Edward is buried in Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France Grave 11 B 49



Edward's wife requested the inscription for his headstone of
GOD TAKES OUR LOVED ONES FROM OUR HOMES BUT NEVER FROM OUR HEARTS

Photographs courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken August 2022

