
George James KERRY (1896-1924)

George James Kerry's connection to South Lopham is by residence and death.

George James KERRY, son of John KERRY (1869-1950) and Sarah Ann BRADSTREET (c. 1863-1943), was born on 16 December 1896 in Quidenham, Norfolk.^{1 2} He was baptised on 11 April 1897 in Quidenham - parents John (labourer) and Sarah (née BRADSTREET).¹

The 1901 Census (held on 31 Mar 1901) shows George at Downhill in Quidenham - 4, living with parents John (31, horseman on farm) and Sarah (36), and siblings Eliza (10), Gordon (8), Arthur (2) and Walter (2m).³

At the time of the 1911 Census, George was living at Blo Norton Road in South Lopham, Norfolk - 14, working on farm, living with parents John (41, farmer) and Sarah (48), and siblings Edith Bradstreet (23, dairy work), Eliza (20, dairy work), Gordon (18, working on farm), Arthur (12, scholar), Walter (10, scholar) and Sydney (4).⁴

Very little has been found about George's military career. He was listed on the South Lopham 1918 absent voters list as "10206 Cpl., 14th Vet. Hos. A.V.C." living in The Street. He has a medal roll card showing his service number as SE/10206 in the Army Veterinary Corps. There is mention in his pension card as having also been in the Royal Army Service Corps, ser. no. 8009. His service record was destroyed in June 1932.

On 19 Jun 1921, (the 1921 Census), he was living at Blo Norton Road in South Lopham - 24, unemployed blacksmith, living with parents John (51, farmer) and Sarah (58), and brother Sydney (14, carpenter).⁵

George died on 7 June 1924 in South Lopham⁶

He is commemorated in St. Andrew Churchyard South Lopham- **"IN LOVING MEMORY OF / GEORGE JAMES / THE BELOVED SON OF / JOHN AND SARAH / KERRY / DIED JUNE 7TH 1924 / AGED 28 YEARS. / ALSO / SIDNEY CHARLES / THEIR SON / DIED FEBRY 1ST 1925. / AGED 18 YEARS / NOW WE MISS THEM AND HOW SADLY / HEAVEN ABD EARTH ALONE CAN TELL / WE HAVE LOST THEM HEAVEN HAS FOUND THEM / JESUS HAVE DONE ALL THINGS WELL"**

On 8 June 1928 there was a newspaper report in the Diss Express and Norfolk and Suffolk Journal:

**IN MEMORIAM,
KERRY. - In ever loving memory of our dear son, George James, who passed
away at South Lopham, June 7th. 1924.**

Four years have passed, but we still miss him,

***Never shall his memory fade,
Loving thoughts will ever linger
Round the spot where he is laid.***

From his loving Father and Mother.

Sources

1. *PR - Baptism*. Quidenham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 11 April 1897.
2. *CR Birth*. 1897 Q1 Guiltcross Norfolk Vol 4B Page 259. Cit. Date: Q1 1897.
3. *1901 Census*. RG13 Piece 1866 Folio 122 Page 4 Schedule 17. Cit. Date: 31 March 1901.
4. *1911 Census*. RG14 PN11746 RD239 SD2 ED19 SN11. Cit. Date: 2 April 1911.
5. *1921 Census*. RG15 Piece 09901 Schedule 94 RD 239 RS 2 ED 19. Cit. Date: 19 June 1921.
6. *CR Death*. 1924 Q2 Thetford Norfolk Vol 4B Page 385. Cit. Date: Q2 1924.