

Durrington Cemetery

War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



15068 RIFLEMAN

R. KENNEDY

ROYAL IRISH RIFLES

30TH OCTOBER, 1918 AGE 29

Ever Remembered

By His Loving Father

Brothers And Sister

____ Kennedy Mill ____

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Rifleman R. Kennedy is located in Grave Plot # 325
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Robert KENNEDY

Robert Kennedy was born in Moy, Co. Armagh in 1889.

The 1901 Census of Ireland has Robert J. Kennedy, aged 14, living with his family at Derrycaw (Tullyroan, Armagh) which is located very close to Moy, Co. Armagh. The family consisted of parents James Kennedy (Farm Labourer, aged 40) & Jane Kennedy (aged 32) with their 5 children of which Robert was the eldest. The children listed were – Louisa (aged 7), William P. (aged 6), George (aged 4) & Henry (aged 1). Robert was the only person in his family that could read & write. His father could read & his mother could not read.

The 1911 Census of Ireland has Robert Kennedy, Farm Servant, aged 22, living with his family at Derrycaw (Tullyroan, Armagh). The family consisted of parents James Kennedy (Coachman, aged 50) & Jane Kennedy (aged 47) with their 7 children of which Robert was the eldest. John's parents had been married for 23 years & had 10 children in total, 7 of whom were still living. The children listed were – Lucy (aged 18), Willie (Farm Servant, aged 16), George (aged 14), Henry (aged 12), David (aged 10) & Maggie (aged 8). All the family were recorded as Church of Ireland religion.

Robert Kennedy resided in Moy, Co. Armagh & enlisted with 10th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles. He was given a service number of 15068.

Rifleman Robert Kennedy's Medal Index card shows that he entered a Theatre of War – France on 5th October, 1915.

Rifleman Robert Kennedy died on 30th October, 1918 from wounds.

A death for Robert Kennedy, aged 27, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire, England.

Rifleman Robert Kennedy was buried in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire in Grave /Plot Number 325 on date 5th November, 1918. His death is acknowledged by Commonwealth War Graves Commission & as such he has a CWGC headstone with a personal inscription.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Rifleman R. Kennedy 15068, as having last served with 5th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles, aged 29. He was the son of James Kennedy of Mill St, Caledon, Co. Tyrone.

Rifleman Robert Kennedy was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War & Victory Medals.



Rifleman Robert Kennedy is remembered in Ireland's Memorial Records (an 8 volume set compiled by The Committee of the Irish National War Memorial, originally published in 1923. These volumes provide information on over 49,000 Irish men and women who died in the Great War) with the following details:

Kennedy, Robert. Reg. No. 15068. Rank, Rifleman, 10th Royal Irish Rifles; died of wounds, home, October 30, 1918; born Moy, Co. Armagh.

Rifleman Robert Kennedy is remembered on the Armagh War Memorial Project. The Armagh War Memorial does not list any names – “the committee had found that there were so many names of the fallen that it was impossible to ensure they had obtained them all. Therefore, rather than omit one name the committee had decided to have none.”



Armagh War Memorial



10th (Service) Battalion (South Belfast)

The 10th Battalion was formed in Belfast in September, 1914 from the Belfast Volunteers. They moved first to Newcastle & in October, 1915 landed at Boulogne along with 8th, 9th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th & 16th (Service) Battalions.

5th (Extra Reserve) Battalion

The 5th Battalion was raised in August, 1914 at Downpatrick. A depot/training unit, it moved on mobilisation to Belfast. The Battalion then moved to Holywood in May, 1915 and on to Ballykinlar in March, 1918. The Battalion moved to England in April, 1918, going to Larkhill, near Durrington, Wiltshire.

Photo of Rifleman R. Kennedy's Headstone at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo by Ian King- 2010)