

Surname	Evans
Forename(s)	George Gilmore
Initials	G G
Age	22
Honours/Awards	
Date died	30/10/1916
Rank	Bombardier
Regiment	Royal Garrison Artillery
Unit/Squadron	39th Siege Bty.
Service Number	1171
Cemetery/Memorial	Flatiron Copse Cemetery, Mametz
Grave Reference	I.G.II
Further Information	Son of Naomi Evans, of 26, Newell Rd., Wallasey, and the late Albert Ernest Evans. Educated at The Higher Elementary School, New Brighton.



News Report

Killed In His Sleep

Much sympathy will be felt with Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Evans, of 20, Newell Road, Liscard, who last week received the sad news that their only son, Bombardier George G. Evans, R.G.A., had been killed in action. The parents received a letter from their son, dated the 29th of October, when he was very cheerful, but the following day he fell in action. He was educated at the Higher Elementary School, and was in business with his father as a hay and straw salesman, of Drury Buildings, Liverpool. He had won several medals for swimming, and was an enthusiastic cyclist. He was 22 years of age. Mr A.E. Evans, the father of the gallant soldier, is a well-known Wallasey Freemason, and is at the present time occupying the chair of the Seacombe Lodge on behalf of Bro, W. Smith, who is serving with the colours.

The parents have received the following eloquent tributes of their son's

military worth :-

Major W.J. Fowler, commanding officer, writes :-

"Dear Sir, - It is with the deepest regret I have to inform you that your son, Bombardier G.G. Evans, was killed this morning at 1.20, by a shell which entered the dug-out in which he was sleeping. Death must have been instantaneous, and I feel sure it was painless. He looked quite peaceful when we found him. I am arranging for his burial this afternoon, not far from our position, and I have asked the Church of England Chaplain to officiate. Permit me to offer my sincerest condolence to you and your family on your great loss. As you know I had recommended your son for a commission, and it is particularly sad that he met his death within a short of going home. All the Battery mourn him. He was one of the most popular men in the unit, as well as one of the most promising, and this is a very sad day for all of us. Please let me know if I can do anything for you. I am collecting all the articles found on him, including two rings, and a photo of yourself, and will have them all sent home through the proper channel."

Captain G.G. Mallinson writes :-

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Evans. - May I add my sympathy to you in your deep distress, to that of the Major of this Battery. We had a great shock this morning, at 1.20 a German shell penetrated the dug-out in which your son was sleeping, and he was killed as he slept. When we got him out there was a perfectly peaceful look on his face indicating that he suffered no pain. Your son was a very efficient non-commissioned officer and has rendered very valuable aid as the Battery Commander's assistant. As you know he was recommended by the officer commanding for a commission, and we were expecting every day to hear of his appointment. To show you the love we had for him, the following is an extract from Battery orders :-

The officer commanding announces with great regret the death of 1171 Bombardier Evans, Lancashire and Cheshire R.G.A. Having been closely associated with Bombardier Evans for a year, we had come to regard him as a personal friend and deeply mourn his loss. - Signed, Officer Commanding Battery, R.G.A.' Your son was buried to-night by a Church of England clergyman in a soldier's cemetery near the Battery position. We are all very sorry indeed to lose your son, both as a friend and as a efficient member of the Battery staff."

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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