

Surname	Harvey
Forename(s)	Charles Edwin
Initials	C E
Age	28
Honours/Awards	
Date died	14/01/1916
Rank	Private
Regiment	The King's (Liverpool Regiment)
Unit/Squadron	17 th Bn.
Service Number	24934
Cemetery/Memorial	Cerisy-Gailly Military Cemetery
Grave Reference	II.A.7.
Further Information	Resided at 240 Poulton Road. Poulton



News Report

Poulton Soldier Accidentally Killed

The casualties suffered by the Liverpool Pals in France include Private Charles Edwin Harvey, of, 240, Poulton Road, Somerville, who lost his life through the premature bursting of a grenade which he and two comrades were preparing to discharge. All three were killed. They belonged to the 17th (1st City) Battalion of the King's. in which Private Harvey, who was 28 years of age, enlisted in January.

Mrs. Harvey has received many letters expressing deep sympathy in the loss of her second son. Those from the comrades show that he was a very popular member of "D" Company, and that his death is sincerely deplored throughout the battalion. "It is a fearful shock to us all," writes one of his chums, "for he was immensely popular." Another, who had come to regard Private Harvey "almost as a brother," writes evidently under deep stress, and mentions how greatly one of the officers was affected.

The circumstances of the accident are described in a letter addressed to Mrs. Harvey by Canon M. Linton Smith of Liverpool, who is serving as chaplain with the 89th Infantry Brigade. He says :-

“Private Harvey was killed, along with two of his companions, by the accidental discharge of a bomb which was being prepared to discharge at the enemy. He died instantaneously, suffering no pain.

With very great difficulty his comrades carried his body back from the place where the accident happened to battalion headquarters. It took nine hours hard work to convey the three the three-quarters of a mile which separates the two places.

The same afternoon I laid him and his comrades to rest in the beautiful little military cemetery near by, which, after the war, will become British property, so that the graves will always be cared for. A carefully made cross, with full inscription, marks each grave, and as long as I am here I shall be personally responsible for seeing that the cemetery is kept in proper order.”

Private Harvey was an old pupil of the Bootle Technical School, and when he enlisted was in the employ of Lever Brothers.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

[back](#)