

Surname	Lynch
Forename(s)	James Walker
Initials	J W
Age	20
Honours/Awards	
Date died	31/07/1917
Rank	Second Lieutenant
Regiment	Tank Corps
Unit/Squadron	"G" Bn.
Service Number	
Cemetery/Memorial	St. Julien Dressing Station Cemetery
Grave Reference	Special Memorial 1.
Further Information	Son of John Lynch, of 23, Leander Rd., Wallasey, Cheshire, and the late Emma Lynch.



News Report

Tank Lieut. Killed

The sad intelligence has been received that 2nd. Lieutenant James Walker Lynch, H.B., M.G.C., was killed in action on July 31. He had previously been wounded. In his 21st year, he was educated at St. Alban's School, Liscard, and completed his studies at the Catholic Institute, Liverpool, and was formerly employed with Messrs. J. Collier Ltd., timber merchants, of Liverpool. He joined the colours in September, 1914, and had been in 17 months in France. He was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lynch, 23, Leander Road, Liscard.

Lieut.-Col. E.B. Harkey writes:-

"Dear Mr. Lynch, - It is with the deepest regret that I have to inform you of the death in action of your son on the 31st July. He was doing wonderful work with the Tank he commanded. He had been fighting about six hours, when his Tank was seen to be struck by a large German shell – a direct hit – evidently the communication and petrol caught fire, as the Tank blew up immediately. There

was a sheet of flame, and a short time afterwards another Tank commander looked inside and the remains of the crew's (8) bodies charred and quite unrecognisable. There is some small comfort to know that none of them would have suffered, as the force of the explosion must have killed them instantaneously. He was always so keen and proved himself a very gallant officer, and the Battalion has suffered a great loss. I want you to accept the deepest sympathy of myself and the whole Battalion in your irreparable loss."

Major F.W. Fernie writes:-

"My Dear Sir, - It is my lot to write you the sad news of the death of your brave son – the first of my officers to fall in action, gallantly attacking the German third line in the great battle. He had guided his Tank with great skill over a most difficult route and done valuable work when – the fortunes of war – a shell of large calibre struck his Tank, and he and all the crew were instantly killed. He was a good officer, and a good fellow, and we are all sorry to lose him. I send you our sincere sympathy."

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission

Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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