

# Edward Adams

*15942, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment. Died 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, aged 28*

Edward was born in Warboys early 1888 and baptised 29 April. He was the second child and eldest son of James Adams and Rebecca (nee Langtaff); his father was an agricultural labourer as was Edward before the war. The family lived in Popes Lane where they remained after the death of his father in 1905.

Edward joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment who recruited in Bedford September 1914 as part of Lord Kitchener's call to arms. The battalion were involved in many major battles in France and Flanders and as part of the 18<sup>th</sup> division won a reputation as one of the British Army's best units.



Edward was killed in action on 1 July 1916, aged 28, at the beginning of the battle for Mametz in which the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion were eventually victorious as the main battle of the Somme began. He was originally buried with a group of comrades but their bodies were exhumed in 1919 and he was reburied in Danzig Alley British Cemetery (named after a German Trench), Mametz, The Somme.

Edward's younger brother **Dennis Adams**, who also served with the Bedfordshires, had previously been killed in 1915.

Their mother Rebecca married Joseph Behagg in 1911 thus making **Arthur Behagg** (also on the War Memorial) and Dennis and Edward stepbrothers. Rebecca died in 1931 aged 59.



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