



Casualty Details

Name:	HERITAGE, WILLIAM RICHARD
Initials:	W R
Nationality:	United Kingdom
Rank:	Private
Regiment/Service:	Middlesex Regiment
Unit Text:	16th Bn.
Age:	36
Date of Death:	26/08/1917
Service No:	G/40880
Additional information:	Son of Edwin Heritage, of Copper Beeches, Redbrooks, Saltwood, Hythe. Born at Folkestone.
Casualty Type:	Commonwealth War Dead
Grave/Memorial Reference:	South-East part.
Cemetery:	SALTWOOD (SS. PETER AND PAUL) CHURCHYARD

[See below for further details]



Casualty details © CWGC

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HERITAGE, WILLIAM RICHARD. Private, G/40880.
16th (Service) Battalion, (Public Schools) Middlesex Regiment.
Died Sunday 26 August 1917. Aged 36.
Born and resided Folkestone, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Edwin Heritage and Mary Ann Heritage of "Copper Beeches," Redbrooks, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent.
Husband of Nellie Heritage (née Howard).
Buried SS Peter and Paul Churchyard, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Heritage family resided at 16 Radnor Street, Folkestone, Kent. Head of the house was 49 year old Sellindge, Kent native Edwin Heritage, who was an Own Account Farmer. William's mother; 49 year old Eastling, Kent native Mary Ann Heritage (nee Spillett), was recorded by the census enumerator as being an Own Account Grocer/Shop Keeper. William married

Miss Nellie Howard at Folkestone, Kent on 8 October 1901. On 18 May 1903, Nellie gave birth to William's only child; Edwin Thomas Heritage. Edwin died of a Hemorrhage and Peritonitis on 17 June 1916, aged 13, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone, Kent. His death was the result of a tragic accident at Saltwood the day before his death, when he was shot by a miniature rifle. At the time of Edwin's death, his address was at "Meadow House," Redbrooks, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent. When William enlisted in the army on 11 December 1915 'For the Duration of the War', he stated that he was 35 years and 69 days old, and that he was a Lodging House Keeper, residing at 35 Radnor Road, Folkestone, Kent. William was mobilised on 3 June 1916, and posted to the 12th (Reserve) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) as Private, 15725. William was posted to France on 6 October 1916, and he was transferred to serve in the 16th (Service) Battalion, (Public Schools) Middlesex Regiment, on 21 October 1916. On 11 April 1917, William returned to England, and on 24 July 1917, he was discharged from the army due to being "No longer fit for war service". At the time of his discharge, William was suffering from Carcinoma of the Tonsils, and was being treated at Fawcett Road Hospital, Southsea, Hampshire. William was later transferred to the Military Hospital, Shorncliffe, Kent, where he died at 0530 hours on 26 August 1917. William's home address was 16, Radnor Street, Folkestone, Kent. Sadly by the time of his death, William's wife had left him and he had requested that nothing was given to her in the event of his death. As the result of the break up of William's marriage, it was his father Edwin Heritage who was the recipient of his medals, Memorial Scroll and Death Plaque, as opposed to his wife Nellie being the recipient.
