

Claude Edward Lane Cox

Service no 288884

Born Oct 1893- died 30th Oct 1917

Claude Edward Lane Cox was born in Southport in 1893. His parents were Albert Edward Cox and Rosa Matilda Lane. Albert was born in Nottingham , trained in Medicine at Edinburgh University and became a General Practitioner. Rosa was born in Alton Wilts. They were married in Pewsey Wilts, in 1892. In 1901 the family lived at 36, Hoghton St. Southport. and they had 2 children Claude 7 years and Marjorie 5years. They had a governess, a house servant and a cook. Another daughter Olive was born in 1903 before sadly Rosa died in 1907. In 1909 Albert re-married Caroline Boardman in Preston. In 1911 the family were living at 12a Queens Road Southport and Claude was an apprentice in the Timber Trade working in Liverpool.

The family moved to Grange-over-Sands sometime between 1912-1913 and lived at Inglewood on Kents Bank Road. Albert worked as a GP in Grange and they had 3 more children – Desmond who was born in Southport and Frederick and Ivan both born in Grange. Claude possibly didn't move to Grange with them as he emigrated to Canada. He sailed to St John, New Brunswick on 26th Mar 1913 from Liverpool on an Allan Line ship named the Hesperian. He was 19 years old and a farmer. The journey took 21 days. He appears to have lived in Pipestone, Manitoba and was farming there. The day after war broke out he joined the Canadian Infantry Regiment 78th Battalion as a private and was stationed at Minto Barracks, Winnipeg, Manitoba before joining the 221 Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force. The expeditionary force sailed to Britain in April 1917 and his troopship was nearly torpedoed crossing the Atlantic. He served five months in France and Belgium before he was killed in action while going forward to repel a counter-attack on Passchendale Ridge on 30th Oct 1917. He is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres Belgium and on the Grange War Memorial.

Dr Cox and family continued to live at Inglewood until 1932 and then moved to Eller Mount, Methven Road where they remained until 1937. Dr Cox gave the land at the junction of Kents Bank Road and the Esplanade to the parish. It was part of his garden where his children played and is now known as Cox's Corner. Dr Cox died in Grange on 22nd Oct 1940 but was living at the time in Hendon Middlesex.



Inglewood, Kents Bank Road 1912-1932



Eller Mount, Methven Road 1932-1937

Claude Edward Lane Fox

Obituary Westmorland Gazette

17th Nov 1917

Grange.

KILLED IN ACTION.

COX, Pte. C. E. L. Dr. A. E. Cox, Grange, has received news of the death of his eldest son, Claude E. Lane Cox, killed in action while going forward to repel a counter-attack on Passchendaele Ridge. He was a private in the Canadian Infantry. In a letter his officer stated that he was one of his best boys. "If Private Cox had lived he would have been recommended for a decoration, because he was slightly wounded on the morning of October 30th, but refused to leave me as he knew I was running short of men; but unfortunately he was killed two days later." The deceased soldier had been farming in Canada for two years before the war broke out, and volunteered the day after the declaration of war. His troopship was nearly torpedoed coming across the Atlantic. He served exactly five months in France and Belgium. Three days before his son was killed Dr. Cox also suffered the loss in action of a nephew, Lieut. Clarence Cox, M.C., Sherwood Foresters.

In Memory of

Private

Claude Edward Lane Cox

288884, 78th Bn., Canadian Infantry who died on 30 October 1917 Age 24

Son of Albert Edward Cox, M.B., of Inglewood, Grange-over-Sands, Lancs, England, and the late Rosa Matilda Cox.

Remembered with Honour
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission