

WILLIAM HENRY SYMONDS (1908-11)

Date of Birth	13 May 1894
School Information	None
Career Information	<p>He enlisted in Newcastle upon Tyne in the Northumberland Fusiliers. At the time it was recorded that he appeared to be around 16 or 17 years old, not the 19yrs 272 days that he alleged. That was on 9th February 1914. He attested as a farmer's son from Badwell Ash, Suffolk, height 5' 11.3", weight 138.5 lbs, chest 38" expanding by 3 ",grey eyes and light brown hair. In addition to doubts about his age, it was decreed that his defective teeth made him 'unlikely to make an efficient soldier' - a quote from Kings Regulations Para 392 (iii)(c). So he was sent back home on 9th April 1914.</p> <p>At that time there was concern about the number of volunteers being rejected due to defective teeth when dental treatment could have rendered them fit for service, and later regulations were put in place to arrange for such treatment to be arranged. Undeterred he went on later to enlist successfully in the Suffolk Regiment when war broke out. His entry in De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour reads :- "SYMONDS, WILLIAM HARRY, Private, No. 12059, 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regt., 2nd s. of Spencer SYMONDS, of Badwell Ash, Bury St. Edmunds, Farmer, by his wife, Minnie, dau. Of the late William Green HATTEN , of Walsham-le-Willows; b. Badwell Ash, 13 May 1894; educ. Albert College, Framlingham; enlisted on the outbreak of war, served with his regt. In France and Flanders, and was killed in action at the battle of Hooze, 16 June, 1915; buried there in Sanctuary Wood; unm. A brass tablet has been erected to his memory in the Parish Church at Badwell Ash."</p>
Date Of Death	16 June 1915
Cause of Death	Killed in action at battle of Hooze
Location	Buried in Sanctuary Wood in an unmarked grave
Cemetery	<u>YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL</u>
Rank	Private
Branch of Service	Suffolk Regiment, 2 nd Bn

Below is a picture of his name on the Menin Gate.

L. A.	STARLING H.	RENDEI
S. A.	STEADMAN J.	SUTHE
IAN F.	STEVENS W.	
C. W.	STONE J. C.	F
J.	STOREY G. W.	ALDUM
W.	STURGEON G.	ALLEN
NG C. E.	STURGEON T. S.	ANDRE
W.	SWIFT T. M.	ANNIN
NE J. C.	<u>SYMONDS W. H.</u>	BAILEY
W. P.	TATUM E. G.	BAKER
AM W.	TEAGER C. H.	BARRE
I.	THOMAS S.	BARRE
R J.	THORNE E.	BESAN
J.	THORPE E. W.	BISHO
.	TIBBITT J. E.	BLANE
W.	TILLET C.	BOALO