

Private Jack Joyes©
Regimental number: 3648
9th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment

born: 1896 – died: 29 June 1916

Private Jack Joyes was born in 1896 in Cambridge,¹ the son of Jack and Annie Joyes of Cambridge.² He was baptized on 24 April 1896 at St Andrew the Less in Cambridge.³ Jack Senior was born in about 1867 in Gorrington, Sussex.⁴ The story of his family is a little uncertain. Jack and Annie (the former Annie Casey) were married on 22 December 1895 at St Andrews the Less in Cambridge⁵ and had two sons: Jack and a younger son, Patrick (born in 1899).⁶

The family appears to have dispersed over the next couple of decades. In 1901, Jack and his younger brother were probably visitors in the home of William T. North and his wife, Eliza, in Islington, London.⁷ Ten years later, Jack and his father were living with Jack Senior's younger sister,⁸ Mary Jane Collins,⁹ and her husband, Ernest, at 44 Beckett Road in West Worthing, Sussex.¹⁰ Jack's father was a bricklayer's labourer working for a builder and was a widower, so obviously his wife had died prior to 1911. Jack himself was working as a grocer's errand boy. Jack's younger brother Patrick was probably living with Jack Senior's older sister, Ellen Wase, at 30 Portland Road in Worthing—just a couple of miles away from his father and brother. Ten years earlier, Ernest Collins had been living, as a boarder, with Ellen Wase.¹¹

Jack enlisted in the army in Worthing¹² and joined the Front in France on 31 August 1915.¹³ Less than a year later, Jack's battalion was on the front line in northern France.¹⁴ Towards the end of the month, five officers and 250 Other Ranks (non-officers) were sent to hospital with influenza. Jack avoided this illness, but was wounded on 28 June and was admitted to the No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station.¹⁵ He died of his wounds the same day, at the age of 19 or 20. He was a member of the Church of England and was buried in Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Grave Reference: II. E. 138).¹⁶

Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several casualty clearing stations, including the No 1 Canadian, were quartered there for considerable periods. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918, and occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers' remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.¹⁷

His aunt Ellen, with whom he had been living before the war, was notified of his death. She also received the monies owing to him from the army upon his death.¹⁸

Jack was awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918), the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre) and the 1914–15 Star (for service in the war against Germany between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915).¹⁹

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¹ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes, Registration district: Cambridge, Inferred county: Cambridgeshire, Volume: 3b, Page: 483; "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes, Registration district: East Preston, Registration district number: 84, Sub-registration district: Worthing,

Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 18, Household schedule number: 319, Piece: 5337. The record of his death in the Great War states that he was born in Tarring, Sussex ("UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016)), entry for Jack Joyes), but it appears more likely that he was born in Cambridge.

² *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, (www.cwgc.org: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Joyes, J., Service No: G/3648

³ "Cambridge Baptism Transcriptions," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk: accessed 3 September 2016), entry for Jack Joyes

⁴ "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes

⁵ "Cambridge Marriages Transcriptions," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk: accessed 3 September 2016), entry for John Joyce [*sic*]

⁶ "England & Wales, FreeBMD Birth Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Patrick Joyes, Registration district: Pancra"s, Inferred county: London, Volume: 1b, Page: 104

⁷ "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes, Registration district: Islington, Sub-registration district: Barnsbury, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 29, Piece: 181, Folio: 89, Page: 34, Household schedule number: 230

⁸ "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for John Joyes, Registration district: East Preston, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 6, Piece: 1116, Folio: 76, Page: 24

⁹ Jack Senior's sister, Mary Jane, had married Ernest Collins in 1901 in East Preston, Sussex. ("England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Mary Jane Joyce, Registration district: East Preston, Inferred county: Sussex, Volume: 2b, Page: 771)

¹⁰ "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes

¹¹ "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Ernest Collins, Registration district: East Preston, Sub-registration district: Worthing, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 10, Piece: 959, Folio: 47, Page: 22, Household schedule number: 138

¹² "UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016)

¹³ "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes

¹⁴ "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), Regiment or unit: Royal Sussex Regiment, Sub-unit: 9th Battalion, Division: 24th Division, Diary dates: 1915 Aug - 1919 May, Piece description: Piece 2219/2: 9 Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment (1915 Aug - 1919 May), Piece number: 2219

¹⁵ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 5 July 2016), entry for Joyes, J.

¹⁶ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, (www.cwgc.org: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Joyes, J.

¹⁷ "Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/2000047/Bailleul%20Communal%20Cemetery,%20Nord>: accessed 5 August 2015)

¹⁸ "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Jayes [*sic*]

¹⁹ "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 20 August 2016), entry for Jack Joyes