

**Private George Harold Walker<sup>©</sup>**  
**Regimental number: 12682**  
**7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment**

**born: 1889–died: 26 March 1916**

Private George Harold Walker was born in 1889 in Sheffield, Yorkshire, the son of Joseph Walker and his wife, Lydia.<sup>1</sup> Joseph was born in about 1848 in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, and Lydia (née Slowe) in about 1849 in Sheffield.<sup>2</sup> They married in the Cathedral Church of St Peter & St Paul in Sheffield on 27 September 1875.<sup>3</sup>

George was the last of the eight children (seven sons and one daughter) they had together. Lydia had a daughter, Bertha, in 1866, before her marriage to Joseph.<sup>4</sup> The children they had together were:

- John Charles (born in 1876)<sup>5</sup>
- Frederick Walter (born on 9 January 1878)<sup>6</sup>
- Joseph Leopold (born on 3 March 1880)<sup>7</sup>
- Albert Johnson (born in 1881, but died at the age of 5)<sup>8</sup>
- Constance Louise (born in 1883)<sup>9</sup>
- Tom Edwin (born on 31 July 1885)<sup>10</sup>
- Colin Victor (born in 1887, but died at the age of 2)<sup>11</sup>
- George Harold

Just after George's birth, the family was living at 36 Minna Road in Sheffield, where his father was a provision merchant. Bertha, who was then 24, and the couple's son John were probably working with him—Bertha as a clerk and John as an assistant.<sup>12</sup>

Ten years later, the family was living at 261 Pitsmoor Road in Sheffield and now sons Frederick and Joseph were working for their father.<sup>13</sup> George's father, Joseph, died on 25 October 1908 in Sheffield.<sup>14</sup> In 1911, George and his mother were living at 101 Montgomery Road, where George was a furnishing draper's assistant.<sup>15</sup>

George probably enlisted at the beginning of the war in about September 1914<sup>16</sup> and joined the 7th (Service) Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment.<sup>17</sup> At the beginning of the Great War, the regiment had two regular battalions, one militia battalion and two territorial battalions. The 7th Battalion landed at Boulogne as part of the 51st Brigade in the 17th (Northern) Division on 15 July 1915 and George was with them.<sup>18</sup>

In late March 1916, his battalion moved to Armentières, where it replaced the 4th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment in the trenches. The battalion's war diaries do not reflect the activities carried out over the next few days but, during a period to 27 March when the battalion was relieved by the 10th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters, one Other Rank was killed and eight more were wounded.<sup>19</sup> George may have been one of these. He died of wounds to his abdomen on 26 March at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,<sup>20</sup> which was stationed 12 kilometres away in Bailleul.<sup>21</sup> George may have been one of only four patients admitted that day.<sup>22</sup>

A letter was sent to his mother, who was living at 101 Montgomery Road in Sheffield, to notify her of her son's death.<sup>23</sup> George was awarded posthumously 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).<sup>24</sup>

At some point, George had married. It was his wife, Marjorie (born on 19 October 1894), who received a pension after his death.<sup>25</sup> No evidence of their marriage or Marjorie's life after the war was found.

Less than two years after George's death, his mother died. She was living on Thornfield Road in West Park, on the outskirts of Leeds, when she died on 18 January 1918.<sup>26</sup>

George's eldest sister **Bertha** married William Cuthbert Little on 8 September 1904 in Pitsmoor, near Sheffield.<sup>27</sup> Sadly, she would die just over three years later, on 10 November 1907.<sup>28</sup>

George's three eldest brothers—John, Frederick and Joseph—all followed their father as provisions merchants.

**John** married Ann Margaret While in 1900 in Birmingham, Warwickshire,<sup>29</sup> and a year later they were living in Sheffield.<sup>30</sup> Their son, John Jr., was born in 1904 and the family was living at 72 Sandford Grove in Sheffield in 1911.<sup>31</sup> No evidence was found for the death of either John or his wife.

**Frederick** married Sarah Ann Gwenllian Gibbon in 1910<sup>32</sup> and they were living at 76 Sandford Grove, just doors away from John and his family.<sup>33</sup> In 1939, they were at 86 Osborne Road, Sheffield,<sup>34</sup> which is where Frederick died on 29 September 1955<sup>35</sup> and his wife just 11 months later.<sup>36</sup>

**Joseph** married Mary Waddington on 18 July 1907 in Boroughbridge, Yorkshire.<sup>37</sup> Four years later the family was living at 30 Westwood Road in Sheffield.<sup>38</sup> By 1939, they had moved to Chapel-En-Le-Frith in Derbyshire.<sup>39</sup> They had at least two sons—Stanley Cuthbert, born in 1908<sup>40</sup> and Joseph Harvey, born in 1915<sup>41</sup>—both of whom served in World War II.<sup>42</sup> Joseph Jr. lost his life in May 1940.<sup>43</sup>

**Constance** married Harold Waddington, a commercial traveller, in 1906, in the parish church of Roundhay, St John, in Yorkshire.<sup>44</sup> In 1911, they were living at Clithington Lane Pool near Leeds, Yorkshire.<sup>45</sup> By 1939, they were living with their daughter<sup>46</sup> and her husband, Francis Franklin.<sup>47</sup> Constance died in hospital in Leeds on 12 July 1946.<sup>48</sup>

It is not clear what became of George's brother Tom. He was not with the family in 1901 and no clear evidence of his life after that was found. He may have been in the merchant navy,<sup>49</sup> but these records could not be definitely linked to this family.

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<sup>1</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 13 December 2022), entry for George H Walker, Registration district: Sheffield, Sub-registration district: Brightside, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 29, Piece: 3831, Folio: 132

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

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- <sup>3</sup> "Yorkshire Marriages," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 13 December 2022), entry for Joseph Charles Walker, County: Yorkshire (West Riding), Archive: Sheffield Archives & Local Studies, Archive reference: PR-138-3-100, Page: 154
- <sup>4</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022) entry for Slowe, Bertha, Registration district: Bakewell, Volume 07B, Page 528
- <sup>5</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022) entry for Walker, John Charles, Registration district: Sheffield, Volume 09C, Page 410
- <sup>6</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Frederick W Walker, Reference: RG101/3587C/011/27, Letter code: KKCT
- <sup>7</sup> "1939 England and Wales Register," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 14 June 2022), entry for Joseph L Walker, Schedule number: 487, Sub-schedule number: 1, Enumeration district: Rcma, Registration district: 440/2
- <sup>8</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Walker, Albert Johnson, Registration district: Sheffield, Volume 09C, Page 398; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Albert Johnson Walker, Sheffield, Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9c, Page: 314
- <sup>9</sup> The 1939 Census indicates that Constance was born on 28 September 1885: ("1939 England and Wales Register," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 14 June 2022), entry for Cast??E [sic] Waddington, Schedule number: 104, Sub-schedule number: 5, Enumeration district: Kgmq, Registration district: 500 = 3) However, her government record indicates that it was 1883: ("GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Walker, Constance Louise, Registration district: Sheffield, Volume 09C, Page 510). Given that her brother Tom was probably born in July 1885, Constance cannot have been born in September 1885.
- <sup>10</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Walker, Tom Edwin, Registration district: Sheffield, Volume 09C, Page 508
- <sup>11</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Walker, Colin Victor, Registration district: Sheffield, Volume 09C, Page 540; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 30 December 2022), entry for Colin Victor Walker, Sheffield, Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9c, Page: 357
- <sup>12</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 27 January 2023), entry for George H Walker, Registration district: Sheffield, Sub-registration district: Brightside, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 29, Piece: 3831, Folio: 132
- <sup>13</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 14 December 2022), entry for George H Walker, Registration district: Sheffield, Sub-registration district: West Brightside, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 27, Piece: 4376, Folio: 89, Page: 2, Household schedule number: 13
- <sup>14</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 13 December 2023), entry for Joseph Walker
- <sup>15</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry*, entry for George H Walker
- <sup>16</sup> Based on "War Gratuity Calculator" (<https://wargratiuity.wordpress.com/2015/08/16/gratuity-calculator/>: accessed 18 May 2017); "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 14 December 2023), entry for George Harold Walker
- <sup>17</sup> "UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 17 January 2023), entry for George Harold Walker
- <sup>18</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 17 January 2023), entry for George H Walker
- <sup>19</sup> "7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment War Diaries," *The National Archives* ([www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/): accessed 16 December 2022), Date: 1914 July–1915 Aug, Reference: WO 2007/1
- <sup>20</sup> "Search Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 5 September 2021), entry for Walker, G H

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- <sup>21</sup> A casualty clearing station was a military medical unit behind the front lines, usually located near transportation. Casualties who did not soon die or could not be adequately treated in the clearing station were stabilized before being transported to a field or military hospital. "Casualty Clearing Station," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty\\_Clearing\\_Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casualty_Clearing_Station); accessed 4 July 2022). A very comprehensive description of the casualty clearing stations is presented in the blog "Casualty Clearing Stations During WW1" *Chiddicks Family Tree* (<https://chiddicksfamilytree.com/2021/05/09/casualty-clearing-stations-during-ww1/>; accessed 4 July 2022)
- <sup>22</sup> War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13–1919/03/"War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/>; accessed 28 March 2018)
- <sup>23</sup> "Search Name Index," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa*, entry for Walker, G H
- <sup>24</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry*, entry for George H. Walker
- <sup>25</sup> "UK, WWI Pension Ledgers and Index Cards, 1914-1923," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 15 December 2022), entry for George Harold Walker
- <sup>26</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 13 December 2023), entry for Lydia Walker
- <sup>27</sup> "Yorkshire Marriages," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk); accessed 17 December 2022), entry for William Cuthbert Little, County: Yorkshire (West Riding), Archive: Sheffield Archives & Local Studies, Archive reference: PR-101-2-16, Page: 220
- <sup>28</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 17 December 2023), entry for Bertha Little
- <sup>29</sup> "England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk); accessed 31 December 2022), entry for John Charles Walker, District: Birmingham, County: Lon Warwickshire, Volume: 6D, Page: 55
- <sup>30</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 31 December 2022), entry for George H Walker, Registration district: Sheffield, Sub-registration district: West Brightside, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 27, Piece: 4376, Folio: 89, Page: 2, Household schedule number: 13
- <sup>31</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 31 December 2022), entry for John Charles Walker, Registration district number: 509, Sub-registration district: Ecclesall South, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 06, Piece: 27784
- <sup>32</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 16 January 2023), entry for Frederick Walter Walker, Registration district: Sheffield, Inferred county: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9c, Page: 791
- <sup>33</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 16 January 2023), entry for Frederick Walter Walker, Registration district number: 509, Sub-registration district: Ecclesall South, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 06, Piece: 27784
- <sup>34</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast*, entry for Frederick W Walker
- <sup>35</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 16 January 2023), entry for Frederick Walter Walker
- <sup>36</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 16 January 2023), entry for Sarah Ann Gwennlian Walker
- <sup>37</sup> "North Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754–1937," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Joseph Leopold Walker
- <sup>38</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 16 January 2023), entry for Frederick Walter Walker, Registration district number: 509, Sub-registration district: Ecclesall West Central, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 35, Piece: 27755
- <sup>39</sup> "1939 England and Wales Register," *Ancestry*, entry for Joseph L Walker
- <sup>40</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>; accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Walker, Stanley Cuthbert, Registration district: Ecclesall Bierlow, Volume 09C, Page 403

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- <sup>41</sup> "GRO online index (birth)," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 31 December 2022) entry for Walker, John Harvey, Registration district: Ecclesall Bierlow, Volume 09C, Page 803
- <sup>42</sup> "UK, London Gazette's World War II Military Notices, 1939–1945," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 4 May 2023), entry for Stanley Cuthbert Walker, Volume Number: 34653, Reference number: 34653, Page number: 5535
- <sup>43</sup> "UK, Commonwealth War Graves, 1914–1921 and 1939–1947," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 December 2022), entry for John Harvey Walker
- <sup>44</sup> "West Yorkshire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1813–1935," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Constance Louise Walker, Event Type: Banns
- <sup>45</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Constance Louise Waddington, Registration district number: 491, Sub-registration district: Fewston, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 10, Piece: 25997
- <sup>46</sup> "1939 England and Wales Register," *Ancestry*, entry for Cast??E [sic] Waddington
- <sup>47</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Constance M Waddington, Registration district: Leeds North, Inferred county: Yorkshire West Riding, Volume: 9b, Page: 726
- <sup>48</sup> "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations), 1858–1995," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Constance Louise Waddington
- <sup>49</sup> "Web: UK, Naval Officers' Service Record Cards and Files Index, 1880–1950s," *The National Archives* (<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>: accessed 31 December 2022), entry for Tom Edwin Walker, Reference ADM 340/141/24