HAVERHILL CASUALTIES NORMANDY JUNE 1944

Albert Robert Barber

Private, 6146152

2nd Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry

Place of Birth: Haverhill

Killed in Action: 18th July 1944

Cemetery: Ranville War Cemetery, Normandy, France

Albert Robert Barber, known as Bob, in Haverhill born was September, 1915, the son agricultural labourer Albert Barber and his wife Alice nee Pask. He had two sisters, Dulcie born in 1911 and Muriel born in 1917. Alice died in 1918 leaving Albert with three young children to bring up.

Photo right Alice with Bob as a baby and Dulcie.



1939: joined the East Surrey Regiment TA

13th June 1940: Infantry Training Centre

9th Oct 1940: posted 2/6th Battalion ESR

Somerset Light Infantry

Kings Shropshire Light Infantry.

21st June 1943: transferred to 8th Battalion,

5th Sept 1943: transferred to 2nd Battalion,

As a child growing up in Haverhill, Bob would have attended the Council School and we can see from the photo that he was member of the Scouts.

> Height: 5ft 7ins tall Hair colour: brown Eye colour: brown Religion: Congregationalist.



KSLI sailed for Normandy from Newhaven on 5th June. They landed on Sword beach shortly after 10am on 6th June. 14th - 18th July: the battalion moved out of Caen towards Ranville. Initially carried forward on the tanks of Staffs Yeomanry, they were to carry out an attack on the 18th, the objective being the capture of four villages. Now dismounted from tanks, they were met by strong enemy resistance. Casualties were high. At least 17 Other Ranks (and several officers) were killed. Bob was one of those who lost his life.

and

Olive had an inscription added to Bob's Commonwealth Grave headstone that reads:

'TO THE WORLD HE WAS ONE; TO US HE WAS THE WORLD. WIFE OLIVE AND DAUGHTER SANDRA'





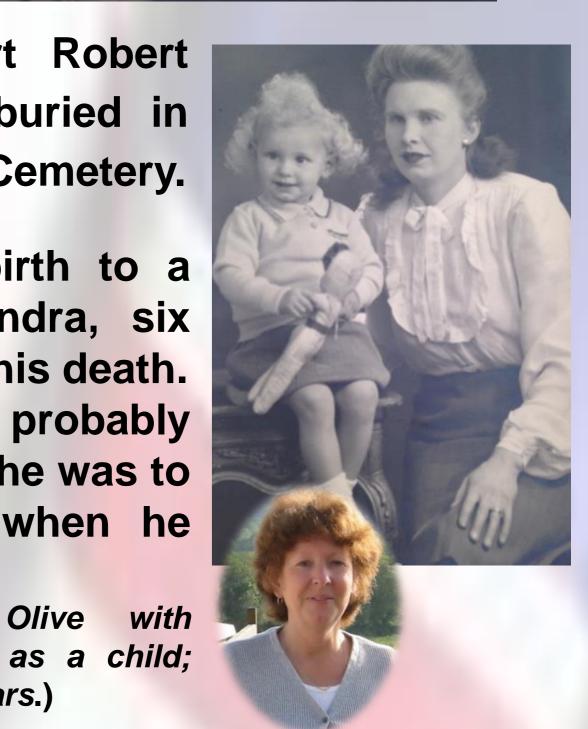


lived at 50 High Street. Eliza's first husband, had been killed in action near William Passchendaele, leaving her with four young children. In 1920 a baby, Kitty, was born and Albert and Eliza were now responsible for eight children. 50 High Street became Bob's new family home.

Bob left Haverhill, moving to London

where he met and married dressmaker Olive Alice Piper from 44 Carlisle Avenue, Acton in January 1940.





Following Sandra's death November 2017, her ashes were scattered over the final resting place of the father she never knew.

Olive

Together at last!



for



With grateful thanks to

Sandra's son Daniel Evans

and other family members

information