



SARGENT, CLAUDE HENRY

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Leading Aircraftman

Royal Air Force

5007 Airfield Construction Squadron.

Age: 32

Date of Death: 24/07/1947

Service No: 957855

He was the second son of Arthur and Ada Sargent of Hyde Park Corner, Fingringhoe & husband of Nellie Violet Sargent, of 41 Lucas Road Colchester. His elder brother Stan and younger brother Dudley were all born with Claude at Monkwick Farm Estate. He died at Saint Thomas's Hospital, Hydestile, Godalming, Surrey

At the time of his death 5007 Airfield Construction Squadron was based at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The Squadron had been formed in December 1941 in the Newcastle area. On the 12th December 1944 the unit went overseas to Ostend. They took up residence in Veurne in Belgium re-constructing the Coxyde Airfield. Detachments from the Squadron were sent to a number of locations immediately post war in Germany. However, it is believed he had been trained as a barrage balloon operator & had been involved in the terrible air raids on Coventry. Although he had not been physically wounded he was hospitalised & ultimately died from shock.

Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead

Grave/Memorial Reference: Sec. F. Div. F. Grave 511.

Cemetery: COLCHESTER CEMETERY



Colchester Cemetery was opened in 1856 and now belongs to the Corporation. It originally covered about 30 acres, but was enlarged in 1940 to 67 acres. The newer part is on the western side of the original burial ground, and behind it is the site of a Roman Way. There are 266 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war, of which 50 are in the War Plot, while 11 Australian graves are together in a group nearby, the remainder being scattered. After the war a Cross of Sacrifice was erected on a site overlooking both the plot and the group of war graves, in honour of all the servicemen buried here. There are also 114 Commonwealth burials of the 1939-45 war here. In the early months of the 1939-1945 War, shortly after the enlargement of the cemetery, land was set aside in the newer part for service war burials. This is now the War Graves Plot. Among these casualties are men who were killed at sea after being evacuated from Dunkirk. The non-war graves are those of a man of the Merchant Navy and two ex-servicemen who were buried in the War Graves Plot although their deaths were not due to war service. There are also 7 Foreign National burials. The plot is enclosed by a hedge of cotoneaster frigida and a Cross of Sacrifice stands on the western side. The graves are set in level mown turf, with continuous flower borders along the rows of headstones in which are polyantha roses and other seasonal flowers.

OTHER MEMORIAL Saint Andrew's Church Fingringhoe



THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ABBERTON, EAST DONYPOND, FINGRINGHOE, LANGENHOE