

Harry Jefferies

Trooper, Royal Wilts Yeomanry. Enlisted at Chippenham. Served in France. Died in hospital at Birmingham, June 4th, 1918. Buried at Lodge Hill, Birmingham. General Service and Victory Medals.



ALTHOUGH RECORDED in *War Records of Corsham* as Henry Jeffries, the citation refers to Harry Jefferies, born in 1887 in Trowbridge to Henry Jefferies and Kezia (née Gay). In 1891, Henry was a foreman in a posting yard.

Kezia died in 1899 and the following year Henry married Ellen Cox. In 1901 they were living in Yerbury Street, Trowbridge, with Ellen's mother Hannah Cox. Henry was now a groom in a livery stable and Harry, aged 14, was an errand boy. By 1911 Henry and Ellen had five children of their own and were still living in Yerbury Street – Henry was now a coachman at the livery stables. Harry had left home by this time and, aged 24, was a groom at Lackham Stables.

His service record states that he enlisted in Chippenham and initially joined the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry but was subsequently transferred to the Wiltshire Regiment. He is recorded as serving in France but was at a UK depot when he died on 4th June 1918 in Birmingham. He is buried at Lodge Hill Cemetery in Birmingham and his Commonwealth War Grave citation confirms his father Henry as his next of kin.

At Lackham Harry worked with Percy Badminton from Corsham, who also joined the Wiltshire Yeomanry and was killed in action in France in September 1918.