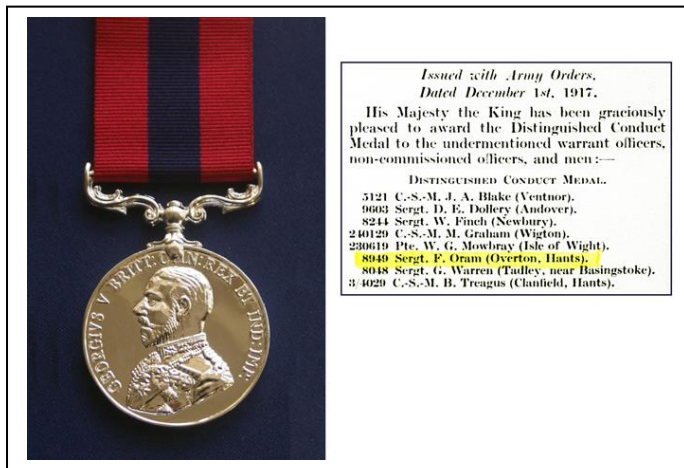


Sergeant Frederick Oram

8949 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment



Fred Oram was born in Overton to Abraham, a farm labourer, and Mary. At the time of the 1911 census he was aged 16 and a labourer at Lampole. He joined the 2nd Battalion, the Hampshire Regiment and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal with a citation for gallantry in the face of the enemy sometime before 3rd November 1917, though it is not known where this action took place.



Citation

At a critical moment he collected some of his own men and of another platoon and led them against an enemy strong point which was holding out with great determination and holding up our attack. He killed the officer who was directing the defence and took many prisoners, as well as a number of valuable document; afterwards re-joining his company and advancing with it to the 2nd objective. His fearlessness and initiative deserve the highest praise.

Hants & Berks Gazette 3rd November 1917

Military news. In last week's list of military honours appears the name of Sergt. F. Oram, Hants Regt., his award being the D.C.M. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Oram, Lampole, and was home from the Front on leave a few weeks ago. We offer to him and his family hearty congratulations on the honour conferred upon him.



For the same action, the French authorities awarded him the Croix de Guerre.

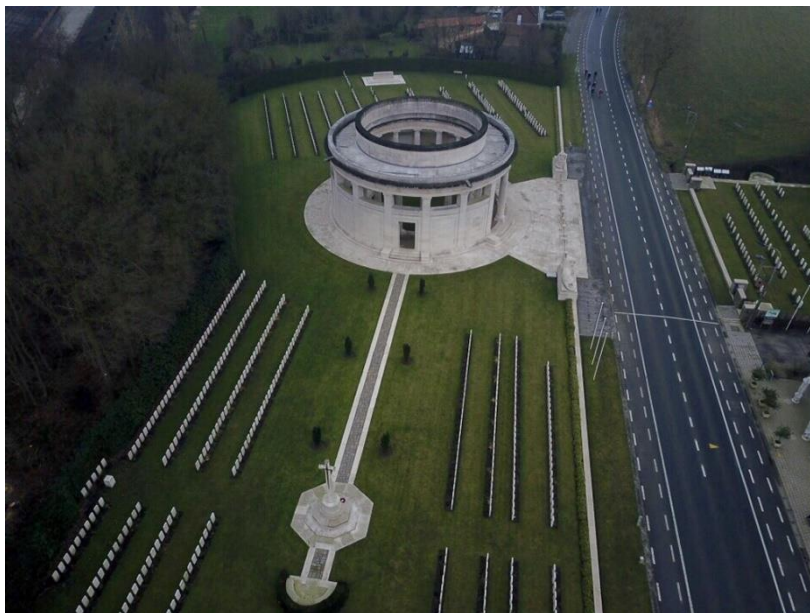
Frederick Oram

Hants & Berks Gazette 11th May 1918 *The Casualty Lists* – *The last offensive of the Germans has, we regret to say, brought grief and sorrow to more than one family in Overton. Sergt. F Oram, D.C.M., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Oram of Lampole, has been reported killed in action. He had been at the Front from the beginning of the war and was home on leave a few months ago. He was a fine soldier and was much respected by both officers and men.*

He was killed aged 23 in action in Flanders on 11th April 1918.

The War Diary for the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment for 11th April 1918 places it in France, near Steenwerck. In the afternoon it was “*subjected to fire by 77mm guns, 4.2” and 5.9” howitzers and heavy trench mortars and about 6pm the enemy tried to advance but was checked by rifle and Lewis gun fire*”. 48 Other Ranks were wounded, 27 missing and 15 killed, presumably with Fred Oram amongst them.

He is commemorated on panel 6, Stone No 6H of the memorial at Ploegsteert Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium.



In addition to the D.C.M. he was awarded the Victory Medal, the British Medal and the 1915 Star.

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11/05/2017

Frederick Oram

11/05/2017