

PRIVATE SIDNEY CHARLES COMER 4862198

1 /4th Battalion Hampshire Regiment
Killed in action Friday 15th September
1944

Age 30

Born Burbage

Living in Hinckley

Gradara War Cemetery, Italy

Plot 2 Row E Grave 44

Son of Sidney and Mrs Comer.

Husband of Mrs Cicely Daisy Comer,
45 William Iliffe Street, Hinckley

Burbage War Memorial

St Catherine Memorial

Congregational Memorial

Liberal Club Memorial



Sidney Comer born on 24th August 1915, the eldest son of farm labourer Sidney Comer. The family lived at 64 Hinckley Rd, Burbage near to the National School where Sidney started in 1920. Growing up in the village he was a member of the Liberal Club and the Burbage Congregational Football Club.

From the Hinckley Times 10th November 1944:

News of how Private "Mick" Comer of Hinckley lost his life fighting overseas has been conveyed to his wife who lives at 45 William Life Street, Hinckley, in a letter written to her by Major Dolman, the company commander:

"Your husband was killed in action by enemy machine gun fire in September. His platoon had been sent out to obtain some important information about the enemy. This information had to be sent back over the wireless set, which was carried and operated by your husband. The platoon was trapped by the enemy in an isolated house and for some reason or another they could not get the wireless communications back to headquarters. The group were isolated and all killed".

From: Major E. DOLMAN, Hampshire Regt.
C.M.F.

Dear Mrs Comer,

As your husband's Company Commander I write to you to-day to offer my deepest sympathies to you in your great loss.

Your husband was killed in action by enemy machine-gun fire on 14th September. His platoon had been sent out to obtain some important information about the enemy. This information had to be sent back over the wireless set which was carried by and operated by your husband. The platoon got trapped by the enemy in an isolated house, and for some reason or other they could not get wireless communication back to me at Company Headquarters. Although the enemy had the house covered by machine-gun fire your

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husband volunteered to go back towards Company H.Q. to try and re-establish communication and pass the information through. Unfortunately he lost his life in this most gallant attempt.

The loss has been felt throughout the Company, as he was popular with everyone. I always found him very willing and cheerful, and I miss him very much.

His platoon commander tells me that when he was killed he fell at once and did not move, so he must have been killed outright and can have had no pain or suffering. When I saw him later his face was peaceful. He was decently buried that night by our Chaplain. In due course I hope you will receive a photograph of his grave. I want you to know that he died gallantly, and like many thousands of others doing

his duty in the cause of freedom. Once again, let me join with all ranks of my Company in sending you our sincerest sympathies in your irreparable loss.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely

E. Dolman

BY AIR MAIL

LETTER CARD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



Mrs S. C. Comer,
45, William Eliffe Street,
Hinckley,
Leicestershire,
England.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH THE BLUE BORDERS WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN

Sidney was buried close where he fell at Gradara Cemetery in the Province of Pesaro in Italy. The site was chosen as it contains the graves of casualties incurred during the advance from Ancona to Rimini, and in the heavy fighting around Rimini, which was taken by the allies on 21st September, 1944. A week after Sidney had been killed.



Gradara War Cemetery, Pesaro