

SAPPER VICTOR CHARLES DAVIES 4856318

275 Field Company Royal Engineers
Killed in action Saturday, 6th March 1943
Age 28
Born Birkenhead, Merseyside
Living in Hinckley
Sfax War cemetery Tunisia,
Plot 7, Row B, Grave 16
Husband of Kathleen Amelia Davies
Father of Peter and Michael
Son of Owen and Violet Davies
31 Thirlmere Road, Hinckley
Burbage War Memorial
Burbage Liberal Club Memorial
Holy Trinity Memorial, Hinckley



Victor was born whilst his father was serving in the First World War on 6th April 1915 at 2 Cardigan Rd, New Brighton, Birkenhead. By 1919 whilst Victor and his sister Iris were children the family split and came to live with their maternal grandparents the Morants at 7 Strutt Rd and later 24 Windsor Street, Burbage.



Victor as a baby with his parents
and sister

On 11th July 1919, Victor and his sister Iris were admitted into the Burbage Church School the register states their former School was in Newport. The later registers show they left Burbage in 1926, but came back in 1927. After leaving school Victor eventually trained to be a bus driver firstly working for Robinsons Buses of Burbage.

In the mid-1930's he met and married Burbage girl Kathleen Amelia Davies and set up home in Hinckley to be near his work with the Birmingham and Midland Red Bus Company.

Victor had served in the Territorials from 1931-1935 and he knew with that experience as a reservist he would be called up early in the conflict. On 28 September 1939, two weeks after war was declared he enlisted with the Royal Engineers leaving his wife and two small sons, Peter and Michael at 40 Strathmore Rd, Hinckley.

On enlistment his army record at the age of 24 years and 6 months states:

Height 5 feet 9½ inches

Weight 151 ponds

36½ inches chest

Complexion fair

Eyes Blue

Hair Brown



Victor and Kathleen

On 10 December 1939, he was with the forces in France. The evacuation of Dunkirk started on 26th May 1940 and continued until 3rd June. Victor was one of the many successful evacuated on the 31st May 1940.

On 9th January 1942, he left his wife and two young sons for the last time arriving in Suez on 30th March 1942 to join the war in North Africa.



Sfax War Cemetery Tunisia

At the second battle of El Alamein, which resulted in victory for the Allied Forces on 3rd November 1942 the enemy were pushed in to Tunisia. Most of the attacks with the Eighth Army took place at Medenine, the Marinth Line and Wadi Akarit in March and April 1943. Here at the 176 Field Ambulances Southern Tunisia on 6th March 1943 Victor died of his wounds.

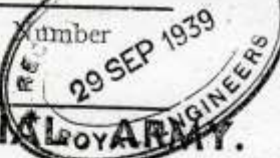
When the Burbage WW1 War Memorial was unveiled in 1948 the family were living at 31 Thirlmere Rd, Hinckley, but the family decided that perhaps because Victor had spent some of his childhood and married in Burbage that his name should be on the Burbage War Memorial. Also, his mother lived on Church Street. His name is also commemorated on the Holy Trinity Memorial.

Kathleen Davies received a War Widows Pension, which in 1943 was £1, 15 shillings per week and sixteen shillings for the two sons. Victor's sons grew up in Hinckley, they are very proud of their fathers sacrifice, and some years ago, Peter made the long journey to visit his father's grave at the Sfax War Cemetery in Tunisia.



Sfax War Cemetery, Tunisia

Registration Number



Date of Birth on first attestation. 6. 4. 1914

Army Form E 531

ORIGINAL
DUPLICATE

The words "Original" and "Duplicate" on the duplicate attestation and on the Original Attestation are E. Records.

TERRITORIAL ARMY ENGINEERS



Duration of the period of embodiment.

No. 4 856318 Name DAVIES V.C.

PART I.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment

1. What is your full name and permanent postal address?
 - 1. (Christian Names) *Victor Charles*
 - (Surname) *Davies*
 - (Address) *10 Strathmore Rd, Sneydley*
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?
 - 2. In the Parish of *New Brighton*
 - In or near the Town of *New Brighton*
 - In the County of *Walesley*
3. (a) Are you a British Subject?
 - 3. (a) *Yes*
 - (b) Nationality of parents at their birth. (Father) *Yes* (Mother) *Yes*
4. What is your trade or calling?
 - 4. *Motor Driver*
5. (a) What was your age (in years) last birthday?
 - 5. (a) *24*
 - (b) Day, month and year of birth. *6/4/15*
6. (a) Are you married? (b) How many children are dependent upon you?
 - 6. (a) *Yes*
 - (b) *Two*
7. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Supplementary Reserve, the Territorial Force (or Army), the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Auxiliary Air Force, the Army Reserve, the Air Force Reserve, the Militia Reserve or any Naval Reserve Force, or any O.T.C. or Cadet Unit? If so state particulars of all engagements.
 - 7. *Territorials 1931-1935*
8. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?
 - 8. *Yes*
9. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?
 - 9. *Yes*
10. (a) Are you willing to enlist for General Service?
 - 10. (a) *Yes*
 - (b) Are you willing to serve outside the United Kingdom? *Yes*
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions until the end of the period of embodiment of the Territorial Army, provided His Majesty should so long require your services, which means that you will be required to serve for so long as His Majesty should require your services in connexion with the present emergency for which you are enlisting, and that if you are still serving at the termination of the period of embodiment you will be discharged as soon as your services can be dispensed with thereafter?
 - 11. *Yes*
12. Are you in receipt of a disability pension?
 - 12. *No*
13. Have you received a notice paper stating the liabilities you are incurring by enlisting and do you understand and are you willing to accept them?
 - 13. *Yes*

I, *Victor Charles Davies* do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made; also that I understand that, should my health fail or should I sustain an injury during military service, I shall not be eligible for consideration for pension or gratuity on account of disability unless the disability is directly attributable to the conditions of Military Service.

V.C. Davies SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
W. J. ... Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Victor Charles Davies* swear by Almighty God that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and the Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me.

CERTIFICATE OF

I, *Clare Bay* do hereby certify that, in my presence, all the foregoing questions were put to the recruit above-named, that the answers written on the form are those which he gave.

