

Private George James Smith 70163 Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Debys) Regiment died on 09/10/1916 aged 34. He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

He was the son of John and Annie E. Smith, of The Lyndens, Retford, Notts.



The 27th Oct 1916 issue of the Retford Times reported in fuller detail the death of Private George Smith as follows :-

“Since the announcement in our last issue of the death in action of Pte George Smith, Sherwood Foresters, second son of Mr & Mrs John Smith, The Lyndens, Retford various public authorities, of which Mr Smith is a member have passed resolutions of sympathy with the bereaved parents viz Retford Board of Guardians, Retford Branch of the Retford Soldiers’ and sailors’ Families Association and the Retford Education Authority. Appropriate references were also made on Sunday by the Rev J W Acres at the Wesleyan Church with which Mr Smith is prominently associated and has been organist for many years. The Rev T Gough, headmaster of Retford Grammar School at a meeting of the Education Authority suggested that “Mr Smith would feel nothing but gratification and pride that he had given his gallant boy in a righteous cause”. Mr Smith felt proud that his son had met his death nobly fighting for King and Country and trusted that his and many other gallant lives would not be lost in vain but that a righteous and proper peace would result.”