

**Private George William Allen** 83381 Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derbys Regiment).

The following information has been supplied by Miss Joan Mary Elston, the grand-daughter of Private George William Allen.

Private George William Allen 83381 was killed at the Battle of the Aisne on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 1918 aged 38. He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Soissons Memorial, on the Menin Gate, on the War Memorial in the Square at Retford and also on the brass plaque inside Grove Street Methodist Church.

He previously had a butchers shop in Woolpack Street with his wife Mary May Allen (nee Allwood). They later moved to Gringley Villa farm Cottage where they had cows, horses and established a milk delivery business. At the time he was posted missing presumed killed the family lived at 34, Trent Street.

The last time the family saw him alive together with other soldiers was on a newsreel at the Picture Palace, Carolgate, Retford after he had been conscripted.

His widow and four young children then moved to 16, Grove Street, Retford, where Mrs Allen carried on the Milk Delivery Business for many years pushing a large yellow and black wheeled milk cart delivering milk twice a day. During the summer when she had any milk not sold she would turn it into ice cream which she sold to make ends meet. She also made and sold Iced Wedding Cakes.

Her son Harold William Allen carried on the Milk Delivery Business for a time delivering the milk by Pony and Trap.