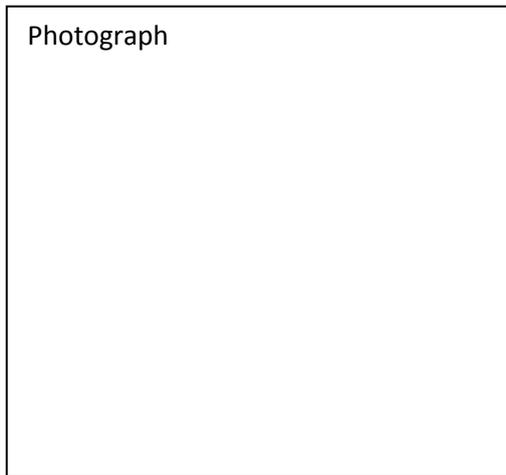


<i>Name</i>	Herbert Edmund FARMER
<i>Birth Place</i>	Bugbrooke
<i>Occupation 1911</i>	Soldier
<i>Date of Birth</i>	Second quarter of 1892
<i>Date Enlisted</i>	12 October 1910



<i>Parents</i>	Edmund & Annie Maria
<i>Married</i>	Single

<i>Information from National Roll of the Great War</i>	
No entry found.	

<i>Additional Information</i>

Herbert Farmer enlisted in 3rd Battalion (Special Reserve), the Northamptonshire Regiment on 12 October 1910, allocated number 9001. These units were created by the Haldane Army Reforms (1906-1912), replacing the previous Militia units; they were intended to be a source of replacements for any regular expeditionary force, rather than to be units of the Territorial Force that was formed in 1908.

The following year he volunteered for the regular army and was accepted into the same regiment on 13 January 1911, re-numbered as 9281. After training at the regimental depot, on 15 March he was posted to the 1st Battalion.

By the time of the census on 2 April that year, Herbert was a patient in the Military Hospital at Stoke, in Devonport (Plymouth), being discharged on 21 April. It is not clear from the damaged record if that was just from hospital or from the army. His parents were living at 5 Tithe Street, Weedon, at this time.

However, by early 1915, having been re-numbered as 12859, Herbert was with the Regiment and on 25 March joined the 2nd Battalion, which had been in France since 5 November 1914. He was wounded on 9 May during a day of intense activity, succumbing to those wounds some two weeks later, in England.

According to the official War Diary for 9 May 1915, the 2nd Northampton were in the forefront of a Brigade attack on Aubers Ridge, with the Battalion attacking 'the Salient' from 5.50am. The two leading companies, 'A' and 'D', took particularly heavy casualties, mainly from enfilade machine-gun fire, as did 'B' and then 'C' companies trying to follow-up, in unsuccessful attempts to support them. What remained of the battalion was withdrawn at 9.15 that evening – 426 all ranks from the 20 officers and 867 soldiers who started the day. On 11 May while in Divisional Reserve, the Battalion received a message of congratulations from the Brigade Headquarters for their services on 9 May; they had already received the first batch of casualty-replacements.

Herbert was evacuated to England and died in hospital of his wounds on either 25 May (annotation on his Medal Index Card) or 29 May (the Commonwealth War Graves Commission – CWGC – record). He was taken to Weedon for burial, in grave 233. His parents' address is noted as 23 Queen Street by CWGC.

It is not yet clear in which hospital he died, the long-established 'Cambridge Military Hospital' is in *Aldershot*, named after the Duke of Cambridge, but the GRO index lists his death in *Cambridge* registration district – the death certificate may clarify matters.

He qualified posthumously for the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, and his family should also have received a Memorial Plaque and separate 'parchment' Memorial Scroll in his name.