
Bertie Henry PAYNE (1917-1943)

Bertie Henry Payne's connection to North Lopham is by family residence.

Son of Bertie Fergus Payne who fought in The Great War and thankfully survived.

Bertie Henry PAYNE, son of Bertie Fergus PAYNE (1885-) and Dorothy Mary HOLDEN (c. 1896-c. 1932), was born on 9 June 1917 in South Lopham, Norfolk.^{1 2} He was baptised on 29 July 1917 in South Lopham - parents Bertie and Dorothy Mary.¹

In the 1921 Census (19 Jun 1921) he appeared at Rectory Road in South Lopham - 4y 1m, living with parents Bertie Fergus (34y 8m, yardman on Lodge Farm) and Dorothy Mary (26y8m, home duties), brother Victor Arthur (2y 9m), and grandmother Alice HOLDEN (64y 11m, home duties).³

No details of Bertie's World War 2 military service have been found. Bertie married **Lily May LINES** on 9 August 1941 in Palgrave, Suffolk.⁴

On 15 August 1941 there was a newspaper report in the Diss Express:

PALGRAVE WEDDING

A pretty wedding was solemnised at the Parish Church on Saturday, the contracting parties being Mr. Bertie Henry Payne, eldest son of Mr. B. Payne and the late Mrs. Payne of South Lopham, and Miss Lily May Lines, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Lines, of Millway Road, Wortham.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a white satin gown with veil and headdress of orange blossom and carried pink carnations and trailing fern. She was attended by two bridesmaids, Miss Evelyn Lines, sister of the bride, and Miss Freda Rivett, a friend. The former wore a pink taffeta dress and silver shoes and the latter

one of blue satin and silver shoes. Both carried bouquets of pink and blue larkspur and trailing fern, and they both wore brooches, the gift of the bridegroom.

Mr. Jack Lines, brother of the bride, carried out the duties of best man.

On leaving the church, the bride was presented with a silver horseshoe by her youngest sister, Miss Ruby Lines.

Afterwards a reception was held at the home of the bride, where between 20 to 30 guests sat down.

Ike happy couple received many beautiful and useful presents.

Bertie died on 9 April 1943 in North Africa.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission grave registration entry for Bertie was "PAYNE, Tpr. BERTIE HENRY, 319003. 16th/5th Lancers, R.A.C. 9th April, 1943. Age 25. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Bertie Furgus Payne; husband of Lily May Payne, of Martlesham, Suffolk."

On 14 May 1943 there was a newspaper report in the Diss Express:

On Active Service

PAYNE - Killed on active Service in North Africa in April, L/C. Bertie Payne beloved grandson of Mrs. Payne, The Green, North Lopham.

Bertie is buried/commemorated at Medjez-el-Bab Memorial, Tunisia.

Spouse:

Lily May LINES, daughter of Charles Horace Metcalfe LINES (c. 1899-c. 1952) and Honor Elizabeth NOLLETH (1899-c. 1996), was born circa 1921. She died circa 2018.

Sources

1. *PR - Baptism*. South Lopham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 29 July 1917.
2. *CR Birth*. 1917 Q3 Thetford Norfolk Vol 4B Page 427. Cit. Date: Q3 1917.
3. *1921 Census*. RG15 Piece 09901 Schedule 32 RD 239 RS 2 ED 19. Cit. Date: 19 June 1921.
4. *CR Marriage*. 1941 Q3 Hartismere Suffolk Vol 4A Page 3437. Cit. Date: Q3 1941.