**Sutton Mandeville** 

# **Roll of Honour**



## World War II



5725780 PRIVATE

## K. W. F. TAYLOR

### 4TH BN DORSETSHIRE REGIMENT

27th FEBRUARY, 1945 AGE 22

## **Kenneth William Francis TAYLOR**

Kenneth William Francis Taylor's birth was registered in the district of Tisbury, Wiltshire in the June quarter of 1922. His parents were John George and Mary Florence Taylor (nee King).

Kenneth William Francis Taylor enlisted with the Dorsetshire Regiment and was attached to 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 5725780.

The 4th and 5th Battalions Dorsetshire Regiment fought in the liberation of Northwest Europe in 1944-1945.

Private Kenneth William Francis Taylor died on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1945, aged 22 years.

Private Kenneth Taylor was buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany – Grave No. 57. F. 18. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Pte Taylor is one of 119 men that died on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1945 & are buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Kenneth William Francis Taylor, 5725780 of 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment, as being the son of John George and Mary Florence Taylor of Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire.

Kenneth Taylor is remembered on the 1939 -1945 Memorial plaque located inside All Saints Church at Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire.



World War 1 & 2 Memorial Plaques (Photo by Antony Firth)

#### **Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany**

The town of Kleve lies in the west of Germany close to the Dutch border, approx 130kms to the north west of Koln, and approx 25kms to the south east of Nijmegen.

#### **Historical Information**

Reichswald Forest War Cemetery was created after the Second World War when burials were brought in from all over western Germany and is the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the country. Some of those members of the land forces buried there died in the advance through Reichswald Forest in February 1945. Others died crossing the Rhine, among them members of the airborne forces whose bodies were brought from Hamminkeln, where landings were made by the 6th Airborne Division from bases in England. Some of the airmen buried in the cemetery lost their lives in supporting the advance into Germany, but most died earlier in the war in the intensive air attacks over Germany. Their graves were brought in from cemeteries and isolated sites in the surrounding area.

There are now 7,594 Commonwealth servicemen of the Second World War buried or commemorated in the cemetery. 176 of the burials are unidentified. There are also 78 war graves of other nationalities, most of them Polish.

Special Memorials to 9 airmen are located at the East boundary wall, near Plot 10. Further Special Memorials to 7 airmen are located within Plot 31, near the Cross of Sacrifice.



(Photo from Google Earth)



(Photo from CWGC)



(Photo by <u>Bj.schoenmakers</u>)

