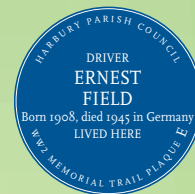




IN MEMORY OF DRIVER ERNEST WILLIAM FIELD



52nd Division Signals, Royal Corps of Signals
Died on active service on 25th April 1945

BLUE PLAQUE E

Ernest was born in Harbury in 1908. His family lived in Binswood End where his father, Charles, was a blacksmith. He was the sixth of seven children. Ernest married Harbury girl Cecilia Freeman in 1935. At that time, he was working as a salesman. In 1937 Cecilia gave birth to twins, Frank and Doreen. In 1939 a son Richard was born. When war broke out the family were living with Ernest's parents and Ernest was working as a driver. In 1941 Ernest and Cecilia had a daughter named Pamela but sadly she died aged three months. By the time their last child Janice was born in 1943 Ernest was serving as a Driver in the Royal Corps of Signals.



Driver Ernest William Field

Ernest was with the 52nd Division which was training to land at airfields captured by the First Airborne Division at Arnhem. However, following the catastrophic failure of this operation

they were shipped to Ostend in October 1944. They took part in the battle of the Scheldt to open up the port of Antwerp. The fighting took place in difficult terrain in the flooded polders of the Scheldt Estuary and the 52nd Division received high praise for its performance.

In December the 52nd Division transferred to the British Second Army and in January 1945 participated in Operation Blacklock clearing the Roer Triangle between the Rivers Meuse and Roer. In April they began the drive across Luneburg Heath as the Allies advanced into Germany and Ernest

died on April 25th just two weeks before the end of the war. Ernest is buried in Becklingen War Cemetery in Germany.

