



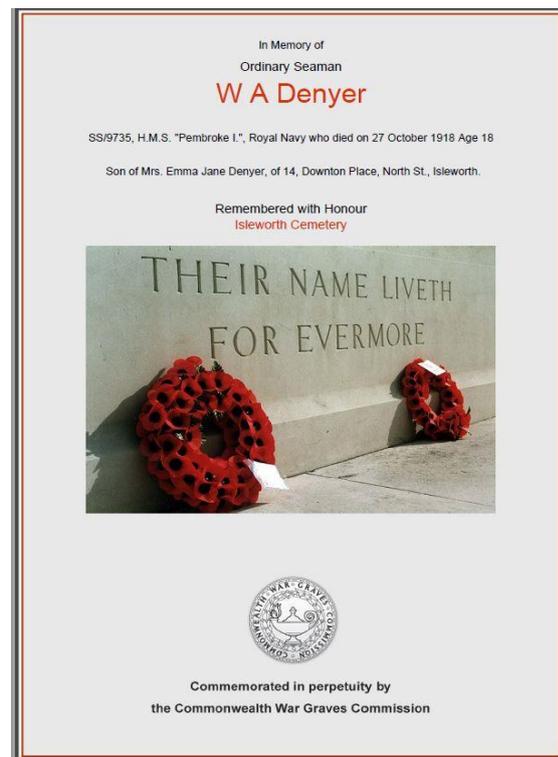
William Arthur Denyer (11 September 1900 – 27 October 1918)

William was the son of Charles Thomas and Emma Jane Denyer (nee Cook) who married in 1892 in Bethnal Green, London. Charles was born in Mortlake, Surrey and his wife Emma in Wiltshire or Gloucestershire. Charles was a Miller's Labourer. He died in 1903, aged 39, when William was just 3 years old.

Charles and Emma had 9 children but only 5 had survived by 1911 so William, who was born in Isleworth, grew up with his widowed mother alongside two brothers and two sisters. They were George Charles (born 1894 in Wandsworth), Albert William (born 1896 in Marylebone), Lilian Gertrude (born 1899 in Isleworth) and the youngest, Edith Agnes, who was also born in Isleworth in 1902.

In both the Censuses of 1901 and 1911 the family were living in Downton Place, North Street, Isleworth. In 1911 all five children were living with their mother. George, aged 17 was working as a Boxmaker, Albert aged 15 was an Errand Boy and the three younger children Lillie (aged 12), William (aged 11) and Edie (aged 9) were all at school. William's mother Emma was working as a Charwoman.

William was only 14 when World War I started in 1914. He enlisted as an Ordinary Seaman (O.S.) in the Royal Navy on 25 September 1918, 2 weeks after his 18th birthday. His occupation at that time was Carman. His service record describes him as 5ft 7ins tall with a pale complexion, dark brown hair and brown eyes.



William was posted to HMS Pembroke I which was the Royal Naval shore base at Chatham. Within a matter of a few weeks he became ill and was admitted to the Royal Naval Hospital at Chatham. He was diagnosed with Influenza and Pneumonia. There was a major outbreak of Spanish Flu in the UK at that time and more than 200,000 people died. There were more than 200 deaths recorded from the disease at HMS Pembroke I from mid-1918 until 1921.

William died in Hospital in Chatham on 27 October 1918. He had been in the Royal Navy for a month and he died a few weeks before the end of the war in November 1918. William was buried in Isleworth Cemetery in Park Road.