

Bombardier John Corless (816097) 30 Field Regt; Royal Artillery d 6 July 1944



IN
LOVING MEMORY OF
MY DEAR HUSBAND
ROBERT ORMAND CORLESS
WHO DIED APRIL 20TH 1948
AGED 57 YEARS
ELLEN CORLESS
BORN NOV 11TH 1889
DIED FEB 23RD 1963
ALSO **JOHN**, THEIR SON
KILLED IN ACTION JULY 6TH 1944
AGED 33 YEARS
ALSO ELLEN, THEIR DAUGHTER
DIED MAY 4TH 1975
AGED 60 YEARS

"AT REST"



The *Barrow News* 29 July 1944 (from where the photo above right is taken) reported:

Dalton Man's Death in Italy

Mrs Corless, of 19, Lancaster-street, Dalton, has received word that her husband, Bdr. John Corless, R.A., was killed in Italy on 6 July.

Born in Dalton 33 years ago, he had served 12 years with the Royal Artillery. After six years in India, he served in France and was evacuated at Dunkirk. He later fought in Tunisia and the Middle East.

His parents are Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Corless, of 19, Buccleuch-street, Dalton, and previous to joining up he was employed in the sheet iron department of the Shipyard. He leaves a widow and one child.

According to a family tree on *Ancestry*, John married Mary Alma Knowles in June 1939, and their son Derek Corless was born 13 Jan 1940. On the *CWGC* website, they were living in Milnthorpe, Westmorland. John is buried in Arezzo War Cemetery, Italy.

John (aged 4 months) just appears on the **1911 Census** on *Ancestry*, living at 6 Skelgate, Dalton in Furness, along with father Robert Ormand Corless (19), born Cockerham, Lancs, a coach painter for a coachbuilding firm, and mother Ellen (21) (née Dickinson), born Dalton.

By the time of the **1939 National Register**, the family had moved to 19, Buccleuch Street, Dalton, and the household consisted of Robert O. Corless, born 14 April 1891; Ellen Corless, born 26 February 1889, and a second Ellen Corless, born 11 November 1915. Both Ellens are on 'unpaid domestic duties'. Robert was a Plate Edge Planer at the Shipyard.

Father Robert can be found in the **1891 Census** as a 9 yr old living in Cockerham, where his father was a mason and builder. Elsewhere, his baptism is listed as 14 April 1891, so perhaps he was born earlier, or baptised on the day he was born. His middle name is spelt 'Ormande'.

Cumbria BMD suggests that John had other siblings not mentioned above: Robert Ormand Corless (born 1912), and Bessie Corless (born 1913), who married Alan Capstick in 1936 at St Mary's, Dalton.