

Private John Sparkes Gilpin

13th July 1918

Dawlish Gazette – 20th July 1918

Death.

GILPIN.—July 13th, at Sheringham, Norfolk, John Sparkes Mafeking Gilpin ("Jack"), Private, Devon Regiment, the dearly-loved son of Mr and Mrs Sparkes Gilpin, in his 19th year. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing parents.

Keen sympathy has been felt with Mr and Mrs Sparkes Gilpin, of Golden Terrace, in the death on the 13th inst. of their son and only child, John Sparkes Mafeking Gilpin, who was in his 19th year. The young fellow commenced his military training six weeks ago. He had written home cheery letters. At the beginning of last week, however, he stated that he was not feeling well, but they were not to worry, he would soon be fit again. Nothing further was heard, but on Saturday morning they had the great shock of a wire from Sheringham, Norfolk, stating that their boy was dead. The cause of death is officially given as phthisis and syncope. Although there might have been little opportunity, it can only be said that, *prima facie*, it seems a callous thing that the parents were not informed of the seriousness of the lad's condition.

The body arrived home by train on Wednesday morning in charge of a Corporal of the R.A.M.C. The funeral took place the same day, the Vicar officiating. The mourners were the father and mother, Miss Hart, Mrs Cotton, and Mrs John Gilpin (aunts), Mr Jack Gilpin, Mrs Hitchcock and Mr Fred Gilpin, R.N. (cousins), Miss R Hart, Mrs Vicary, Mrs T Frost, Mrs Ware, Mrs Newton, Mrs G Edwards, Mrs Combstock, Mrs Dart, Mrs Thorp, Mrs W Davis, Mr H Bishop and several others.

Wreaths, etc., were from the Father and Mother, Uncle Jack and Aunt Lizzie and family, Uncle

Fred and family, Aunt Bess and family, Aunt Jane and Clara, Aunt Rosie, Mrs Bryant and family, Bert Rendell (chum), Mr and Mrs Small, Mr and Mrs H G Tyrrell, Mr and Mrs Ware, Miss Voysey, Mr and Mrs Sharpe, Mr and Mrs Vicary, Mr and Mrs Newton, Officers and N.C.O.'s of — Batt., D.R., Miss Taylor, Pte W Cockram (chum), Mr and Mrs Fred. Avant, his father's fellow-workmen, Mrs Gibbons and family, Mr and Mrs Clark, Mr and Mrs W Davis and family, Pte Wilfred Davis (friend and comrade), Mr and Mrs Edwards and family, Mr and Mrs T Frost, Mr F Friend and former fellow-workmen, and a large everlasting wreath from Neighbours.

A letter has been received from the Chaplain expressing the sympathy of the officers of the Battalion.