

Barker, Dennis Matthew
Corporal
Leicestershire Regiment
1st Battalion
4863551



Dennis Matthew Barker was born on the 4th of February, 1920 in Leicester, Leicestershire, England. He was the son of George and Lilian Barker-Matthews.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1920.									
BARKER									
Mother's Maiden Surname.	District.	Vol.	Page.		Mother's Maiden Surname.	District.	Vol.	Page.	
Berham, Edith M.	Shelbrooke	3 a	1543	Barker, Charles F.	Farraway	Edmonton	3 a	1718	
Ellen	Hyatt	2 a	2260a	Charles H.	Lewis	Doncaster	9 c	2054	
Ernest P.	Holbert	4 a	310	Charles R.H.	Bridges	Feetier	1 c	1159	
Francis P.	Filler	1 d	416	Christopher J.	Bundin	Amekland	10 a	503	
Frank P.	Hickman	1 d	702	Clifford	Devall	Oldham	8 a	1292	
Herbert	Sprigg	4 a	515	Constance L.	Ward	Fulham	1 a	815	
Hooper	Wilson	2 a	2230	Cyril	Barker	Oberlton	8 c	1766	
Hilda	Cook	2 a	1548	Cyril	Crosson	Wolverhampton	6 b	1484	
Irene M.	Moss	2 a	2309	Cyril F.B.	Elflett	Staines	3 a	40	
Ivy V.	Harrison	1 d	423	Cyril J.	Gilby	Foole	5 a	547	
Joyce R.	Monerling	2 a	1896	Cyril J.	Mynett	Braintree	4 a	2101	
Louisa K.	Doe	2 a	719	Daisy	Barker	Lough	7 a	1242	
Laud H.	Costello	1 a	1244	Daphne G.	Paul	Mutford	4 a	2747	
Montague E.	Chapman	1 c	611	David	Flatt	Frescot	8 b	2027	
Nellie G.	Marshall	2 a	2480	Denis	Oldfield	Todmorden	9 a	426	
Rita L.	Barakor	8 a	189	Dennis M.	Mathews	Leicester	7 a	563	
Rose M.	Marshall	4 a	281	Derek H.	Holroyd	Ormakirk	8 b	2102	

Birth Register Dennis 1920

As a young man Dennis worked as a sales person in a shoes- and bootshop in Leicester.

On the 24th of June, 1940, Dennis was twenty years old at the time, he enlisted in the army. His registration number shows that he was immediately placed with the Leicestershire Regiment.

In October of 1941, Dennis married Kathleen Mattock Potter in Leicester. Kathleen was born on the 4th of May, 1921 in Leicester. Her parents were John E. Mattock and Grace Margery Potter.

Kathleen worked in stockings factory Hosiery in Leicester. They lived on 145 Charnwood Street in Leicester. In September 1944 their daughter Regina M. Barker was born.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1944.

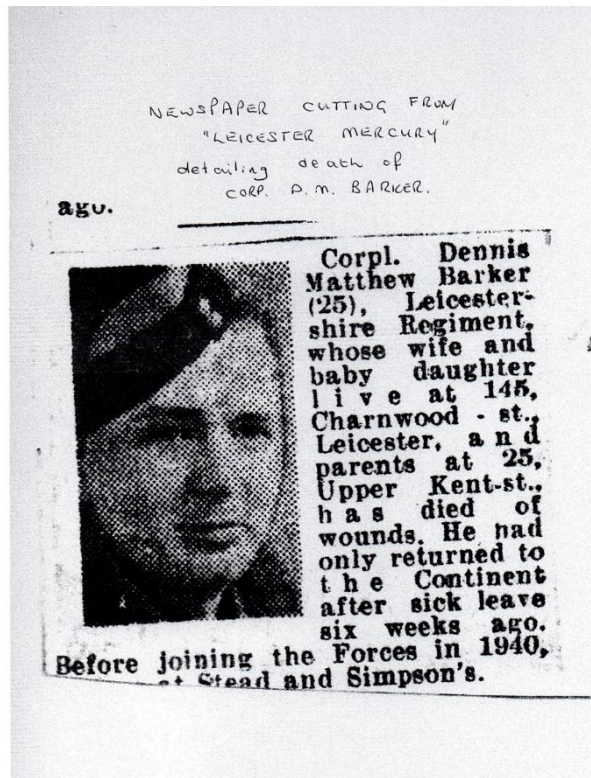
Mother's Maiden Surname.	District.	Vol.	Page.	Mother's Maiden Surname.	District.	Vol.	Page.
Barker, Peter S.	Blessdale	8	a 184	Barley, Michael	Chesterfield	7	b 1317
— Peter S.	Spearing	3	a 1409	— Michael P.	Oxford	3	a 2768
— Phyllis	Goldstraw	6	b 505	Barlow, Alan J.	Ashton	8	d 963
— Priscilla G.	Garmon	3	a 1812	— Alan R.	Downing	6	d 386
— Raymond P.	Wenver	3	a 1150	— Andrea L.	Crossley	6	d 386
— Regina M.	Potter	7	a 438	— Andrew J.	Frost	2	a 88
— Reginald L.	Fox	9	a 22	— Angela M.	Surrey N.E.	2	a 88
— Richard A.	Heighton	3	b 507	— Austin	Leeds	9	b 464
					Goode	3	b 376
					Harmon	8	b 1175
					St.Helens	8	b 1175

Birth Register Regina 1944

After the war, in July 1948, when Kathleen was 27 years old, she remarried Robert J. Horton, in Leicester, England. Her daughter Regina also got his last name, Horton. Kathleen and Robert had three more children together. On the 6th of December, 1994, Kathleen died at age 73 in Leicester.

On the 3rd of July, 1944, Dennis and the first battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment left for north eastern Europe to fight in WW2.

In August of 1944, Dennis was injured and returned to England on sick leave. He only rejoined his battalion in January 1945. On the 25th of March, 1945, Dennis was injured again during the battles in the area of Nijmegen. Sadly, his injuries were lethal this time, because on the 26th of March, 1945 Dennis Barker died as a result of his injuries.



Corporal Dennis Barker was temporarily burried in Nijmegen and he was later reburied at the Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, grave **VI. C. 5.**



Life story: Marian Straatman, Research Team Faces to Graves.

Sources:

Thanks to Regina Steele-Horton (Barker), John Hill and Jo Smekens Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Diana VK

*Candle Evening December 24th 2018.
Photo: Diana Venis-Kerkhoven.*