

Edwin Mitchell
Leading Seaman Royal Navy
P/SSX 17981
Age 25

Born 8 Oct 1918 at Corfe Castle, the son of Ralph and Ruth Mitchell of Council Cottages, West St, Corfe Castle.

Ralph William John Mitchell aged 26 married Ruth Kate Willis aged 23 at Corfe Castle on 7 December 1912. Ralph was a blacksmith. Ralph's father was also a blacksmith living at Rempstone.

Ralph and Ruth had four children, two boys and two girls. Edwin was the third born.

In 1939 the family were living at Council Houses, West Street, Corfe Castle.

Ralph died in June 1967, and Ruth died in September 1978

Edwin was a Leading Seaman serving with the Royal Navy on HMS Vernon.

He died on 26th January 1944 at Kemp Town, Brighton. Cause of death:- strangulation by hanging – suicide whilst the balance of his mind was disturbed, aged 25.

HMS Vernon was a shore establishment at Portsmouth. During WW2 HMS Vernon took on responsibility for mine disposal and developing mine countermeasures. The Germans began to booby trap their mines, and in 1940 one exploded in a shed at Vernon killing five people. HMS Vernon suffered heavy bombing, and after a bomb demolished a building and killed 100 men, the various sections of Vernon were dispersed. In May 1941 most departments went to Roedean School at Brighton. The students and staff of the school were temporarily relocated to Keswick.

Edwin is buried at Corfe Castle (God's Acre) Burial Ground. Grave number, Row GA Grave 13.

Inscription: IN LOVING MEMORY OF TED. "TILL WE MEET AGAIN".



Commemorated on the Memorial at Corfe Castle