

Gerald James Elford
Leading Stoker in the Royal Navy
P/KX 90482
24 yrs.

Gerald was born on 24 May 1917, the son of Harry and Frances Alice Elford.

Harry Elford aged 24 Married Frances Alice Freak aged 21 in Jan 1904 at Turnworth in Dorset.
Harry was a farm labourer and was living at Milton Abbas with his wife and family in 1911.
The family moved around but by 1922 were living at Bushey. In September 1939 the family were living at Higher Bushey Farm.
Harry died in 1957 and Frances died in 1960.

Gerald died on the 15 March 1942 when HMS Vortigern was torpedoed and sunk off Cromer by the German motor torpedo boat (E-boat) S-104. HMS Vortigern was escorting coastal convoy FS-749 at the time of her loss.

He was recorded as missing – death on war service presumed.

The following notice appeared in the Western Gazette on 3 April 1942:-

“Elford – In March, lost at sea on one of H.M. ships, A./C. Petty Officer Gerald Elford, the dearly loved son of Harry and Alice Elford, Bushey, Corfe Castle, aged 24.”



HMS Vortigern

Commemorated at the Portsmouth Naval Memorial, and on the memorial at Corfe Castle.