

Leslie Miles COLBOURNE

Born 1920

Parents: Arthur Miles Colbourne and Ellen Carrie Colbourne of Chichester Sussex

School Years: 1932 – 1936

Oxford School Certificate - July 1936 – Passed with Credits

Armed Forces Record

Service Rank: Lance Bombardier

Service Number: 894931

Service Record 91/98th Field Regiment - Royal Artillery

Service Base: 102 (Northumberland Hussars) Light Anti-Aircraft/Anti-Tank Regiment

Date of Death: 12 May 1945

From an Obituary Account in Chichester Observer 26 May 1945.



"Everywhere That Right and Glory Lead"

**Young Chichester
Soldier killed
Fatality after end of War
in Europe**

'A well-known Chichester family has this week received news of the tragic loss of one of their sons after the War in Europe ended. He had served in practically every big campaign of the War and it seemed that he had come through unscathed only to be killed after the fighting had ended.

The deceased is Leslie Miles Colbourne, second son of Mr & Mrs Colbourne of Grove Gardens, Whyke, Chichester. Mr Colbourne is a well-known baker in

the city. The parents had received news last week that their son was dangerously wounded and in hospital. Word came on Monday that he had died of gunshot wounds at Celle, Lower Saxony, Germany on May 12th. The circumstances of the fatality have not yet been officially communicated to Mr & Mrs Colbourne, but it is believed to have been through an accident.

Lance Bombardier Leslie Colbourne was aged 24, an old Chichester High School boy, he had joined up early in the war and went to France with the British Expeditionary Force. One of the last to be evacuated from Dunkirk he fought with the famous 8th Army in North Africa before El Alamein and on to Sicily. Landing on the Continent with the B.L.A. just after 'D' Day, he had been in action in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany.

L.Bdr. Colbourne had been popular in many spheres, particularly in sport. He had played full-back for Chichester before and during the war. A well-known member of the Chichester Scout Group, he retained contact with the movement up to his untimely death. He joined the 5th Chichester Wolf Cubs in the late 20s, going on in the Scouts to be Patrol Leader.

Leslie Miles COLBORNE was buried at Celle, Lower Saxony, Germany

Mr & Mrs Colbourne have two other sons in the Forces. They are both serving with the R.A.F., one as a Flying Officer',

Sequel

'The Martlet' – School Notes – July 1945

On May 12th another Old Boy, Leslie COLBOURNE (1932-1936) died in hospital at Celle, Germany, as a result of wounds in the head from an accident with a captured German revolver. As soon as the news was received of the accident, his brother Robert flew to Celle but arrived too late to see him alive. Leslie Colbourne had served since 1939 in many theatres of war and his Commanding Officer wrote of him "He was a man on whom the whole Battery could rely. A keen worker, a popular and prominent sportsman". To Mr & Mrs Colbourne and their sons, we tender our very real sympathy in this saddest bereavement. Leslie Miles COLBOURNE was 26.

Commemorated

Chichester High School for Boys -

Chichester War Memorial