



WILLIAM GEORGE JOHN HEATH

**Private
2255**

**Herefordshire Regiment
died on
Wednesday 13th February 1919
aged 23**

WILLIAM GEORGE JOHN HEATH
is buried in
ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCHYARD, COLWALL



Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
HEATH	* Hereford R Labour Coys	Pte	2255 614005
William George John			
Misc.	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	* 26/101 B239	24344	Died 13.2.19
BRITISH	cb	66	
15 STAR	LC/61 c2	61/6	
Theatre of War first served in	(3) Egypt		
Date of entry therein	22-8-15		

**Ledbury Guardian
& Herefordshire Advertiser
Saturday 21st February 1919**

Local Intelligence

YOUNG SOLDIER'S DEATH

A pathetic case is that of Private Willie Heath who joined up on August 11th 1914 at the commencement of the war, served right through, was several times wounded and then at last came home to die falling victim to bronchial pneumonia following influenza at the early age of 23. He was the eldest son of Mr G Heath Great Malvern and a former parish clerk of Colwall and an old scholar of the Boys Free School. On 11th July 1915 he went to the Dardanelles with the 1st/1st Herefordshires. He was invalided home from Egypt in the September of the following year and was in hospital till February 1917. He was then transferred to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and went to France in August and within a month was severely wounded. He went to France again March last and was again wounded in the back and right arm. He was at this time attached to the Notts and Derbys. Going to France in August he was appointed guard in a prisoner of war camp and was still attached at this post of duty when receiving permission to return home in view of demobilisation. On the eve of returning home at his father's house in Malvern he complained of not feeling well and took to bed from which he never again arose. His funeral took place on Monday at the parish church.

William George John Heath, the son of George and Rose Elizabeth Heath was baptised in Colwall on January 19th 1896. He was one of eight children and at the 1911 census the family were living in Jubilee Cottage Colwall and his father George was a domestic gardener. William at 15 was a poultry boy. He joined the Hereford Regiment at the outbreak of war and went to the Dardanelles in August 1915. He served in Egypt where he contracted malaria and was sent to hospital in Southampton. On his recovery he was sent to France, where he was wounded and was again sent back to England. He returned to France of Good Friday 1918 and was again wounded. After another stay in hospital to France he was transferred to a Labour Company; he was returned home on the 4th February 1919 and died at his father's house in Malvern on the 13th. His brother in law Fred James was killed in action in March 1918.