

Sapper CYRIL THOMAS WALKER

1886644, 295 Army Field Coy., Royal Engineers

who died age 22 on 14 September 1942,

Son of Arthur H. and Lucy Walker, of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Remembered with honour at the ALAMEIN MEMORIAL, Egypt

The Register 31 October 1942 unfortunately did not carry a photograph but reported that:

BUSHLEY MAN MISSING: SAPPER CYRIL WALKER.

Mr and Mrs A.H.Walker, of The Green, Bushley, have received official information that their son, Sapper Cyril Walker (Royal Engineers) was reported missing in operations in the Middle East. Cyril the only child of Mr and Mrs Walker, went overseas about two years ago. He received his education at the Tewkesbury Grammar School. He was intensely interested in cricket, displaying good form as a batsman and a useful change bowler. He was one of the leaders of an enthusiastic band of young men who two years before war broke out resuscitated the Bushley Cricket Club and was elected sub-captain in 1939. He is also the possessor of marked musical ability officiating as organist at St Peter's Church, Bushley, for about two years before the war.

It would seem that Sapper Walker's loss was serious locally in view of his talents. The date of his death would suggest that it took place during the first (and less heralded) Battle of El 'Alamein. "The turnabout in North Africa began on August 31, 1942, when **Rommel** was stopped at the Alam El Halfa Ridge, and was thrown back by September 7."¹ It may be that he died of wounds.



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