

Dorothy Haines

Air Raid Precautions (ARP)

Service Number: Not known

Date Died: 17 August 2010 Age: 94

How Died: Cerebral thrombosis

Country of burial: Dunham Crematorium

Cemetery or Memorial: None

Town Memorial: None

Extra Information



Dorothy was born the 10th child of John and Sarah Ann Haines. She attended Upper Thomas Street School (known locally as the academy). From 14 years old she worked as a clerk/typist. When war broke out she wanted to join the Land Army but, in Birmingham, there was little opportunity, so she and her sister Lucy joined the ARP.

Although she said little about her experiences, she told the story of a bombing raid that set Aston Cross area alight. However, the fires were the least of their troubles. A cry went up that Ansells Brewery had been hit. As the brown liquid flooded down the streets, people defied the air-raid warning and rushed from the houses holding jugs, buckets and anything that would hold the liquid. Imagine their surprise when they realised that the brewery was more or less intact. The building gushing liquid was the malt vinegar factory.

After the war she met an ex-serviceman from the RAF, Henry Reginald Wilfred Stainton (known as Harry). They married in 1948 and remained together until she was widowed in 1966.

(Information provided by Jenni Stainton)

Memorials found on:

Not applicable