

In Memory of

Evelyn Irene Murrell

Women's Royal Air Force

Died 27 November 1918 age 23.



No image
currently
available

Remembered with honour:

The Women's National Memorial Screen in York Minster

Downham Market War Memorial

Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Story of Evelyn Irene Murrell

Evelyn Irene Murrell was born in 1895 to William and Harriet Murrell. The family lived in Downham Market where her father owned The Coffee Pot Inn on the high street. After leaving school Evelyn and her sister Florence worked as drapers in Downham. Evelyn's other sister Muriel studied music before marrying police sergeant Thomas Frost.

Florence's husband Frederick was killed at Gallipoli in 1915.

Evelyn enrolled in the Women's Royal Air Force (WRAF) on 24 May 1918. Her service number was 5145. She worked at RAF Marham which was the base of the 51st Squadron. There were four categories of workers in the WRAF; Category A was clerical, Category B was household, Category C was technical and Category D was general. Evelyn was assigned to Category A and worked at Marham as a clerk.

Evelyn became a victim of the influenza pandemic in 1918. She died at home from influenza and pneumonia in the presence of her sister Florence on 27 November 1918 age 23.

(IWM ref. Art.IWM PST 13170)



Evelyn's war grave is in Downham churchyard. Her name was added to the Downham Market War Memorial in 2015 and she is also on the memorial in St Edmunds Church.

