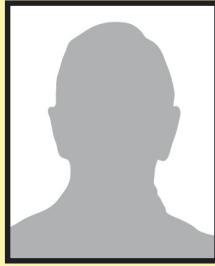




CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS



Lieutenant RICHARD ECHLIN GRAYBURN

Born on 10th December
1918 in Sunderland.

Killed in action
on 20th November 1944.

Aged 25.

RICHARD ECHLIN GRAYBURN was born on 10th December 1918, son of Robert Clement Grayburn, an engineer, and Ethel Rachel Grayburn (née Ward), of 8 Bedford Terrace, Sunderland.

He was educated at Pocklington School and in 1936 went on to Armstrong College, part of Durham University, to study Engineering. He played rugby for the college and the university. After university he became a mining engineer in Assam, India. Later he returned to England and joined the Territorial Army.

Richard married Miss Joan Le Lacheur of Wades House, Barton Stacey, Hampshire, on 6th June 1942. They had a son Robert Echlin Grayburn, born in 1944.

He had been in the Territorial Army before WW2 and was part of the BEF in France. In January 1940 he was evacuated from Dunkirk. He was commissioned into the Corps of Royal Engineers on 28th March 1941 and returned to France after D-Day and was at Caen, Thury-Harcourt and then in Belgium.

On 20th November, whilst on reconnaissance in the main flooded area of Walcheren Island, his amphibious vehicle struck a mine in deep water where there was a strong current. Just before this incident his wife had sent news of the birth of their son, Robert. It was some time later that Richard's body was recovered.

He was buried in Bergen-Op-Zoom Cemetery, The Netherlands. Plot 21.A.5.

BERGEN-OP-ZOOM WAR CEMETERY



The Cemetery is located in Noord-Brabant, Netherlands. His epitaph reads: 'HE WAS A VERRAY PARFIT GENTIL KNIGHT' (CHAUCER).