

Leslie Augustus Reed Cox

Isle of Wight County Press – 6 December 1919

NEWPORT

A GALLANT SEAMAN. – Mr. J. Reed, of Fairlee-road, has received the gratifying news that his gallant son, Leslie, who was one of the first crew of the famous new battleship Queen Elizabeth, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for conspicuous gallantry in the naval action against the Bolsheviks at Onega, North Russia, last September. Many friends warmly congratulate him on the distinction he has won.

Isle of Wight County Press – 30 August 1924

NEWPORT

A GALLANT SAILOR'S DEATH. – The death occurred at his father's residence, 36 Fairlee-road, on Sunday, of Leslie Augustus Reed, second son of Mr. Joseph Reed, an ex-1st Class P.O. of the Royal Navy, aged 26. His end came after a lingering illness, contracted during war service in North Russian waters, and he leaves a widow and child to mourn his loss. Reed had a fine Service record, which was crowned by his being awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and promoted 1st Class P.O. on the spot for great gallantry in fighting with the Bolsheviks at Onega, North Russia, in 1919. He joined the Navy as a boy in 1913 and on the outbreak of the war was serving on the light cruiser Audacious. When that ship was sunk in October 1914, he was transferred to the Queen Elizabeth, on which he took part in the bombardment of the Dardanelles. Returning to England in May, 1915, he passed out top in a gunnery examination at Whale Island, and from that time until April, 1919, served in destroyers of the famous Dover Patrol, and was present at several bombardments of Zeebrugge and Ostend. In April, 1919, he joined the crew of Monitor No. 26, in which he took part in the operation in North Russia, and it was during the fighting at Onega that he contracted the illness which resulted in his being discharged from the Navy and his eventual death. He had the distinction of being one of the youngest 1st Class P.O.'s in the Navy, and a promising career lay before him, when illness intervened. Very sincere sympathy is felt with his wife, child, and parents in their heavy bereavement. The funeral took place on Thursday at Newport Cemetery, amid general manifestations of sympathy, the Rev. Miles Atkinson officiating. The mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. J. Reed (father and mother), Messrs. Arthur and Harold Reed (brothers), Ivy (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Love and Mr. and Mrs. G. Love (uncles and aunts), and Messrs. Br. Shilton, R. Dore, and T. Vine (old friends).

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