

ACW1 Vera Armistice Clowes 2062173 WAAF

Vera was born on 11 November 1920 in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, the eldest daughter of Frederick Robert Crooks and Hettie Crooks nee Holwell. In May 1943 she married Charles Richard Clowes in Ilkeston, Derbyshire.

Before joining the WAAF, Vera was employed by Messrs Johnson & Barnes, Hosiery Manufacturers as a Linker, a skilled operator that is mainly employed in knitted hosiery.

In 1943, Vera was attached to 207 Sqn at RAF Langar, Nottinghamshire.

Vera married Charles, an RAF serviceman, at the Church of Our Lady and St Thomas of Hereford in Ilkeston, Derbyshire on 27 May 1943. On 30 May 1943, the young couple were on honeymoon in Torquay, Devon when, in the early afternoon, 21 enemy aircraft raided the town from the sea. Vera's husband threw her beside a wall and dropped down to protect her. A bomb landed nearby and threw her into the air, and she was subsequently struck by machine gun bullets. Vera was taken to hospital where she died on 1 June 1943.

Vera is buried in All Saints Churchyard, Kirk Hallam, Derbyshire

Vera is commemorated on Wall Panel 146

Photo Source: www.rafcommands.com

