David Johnston 27th April 1961

SEFF remembers David Johnston on this his Anniversary. David died on 27th April 1961 when aged just 27 years. Tragically he was shot by mistake in a misunderstanding by Officers guarding a Bridge near Derrylin.

David joined the Ulster Special Constabulary (USC) at the young age of 18 years.
He served in the USC for most of his life and then joined the RUC in 1957. He had a strong commitment to serving the community.

David was a husband and father before his death in 1961. He was also a member of Newtownbutler Orange Lodge.

During his life David worked in the Sawmills at Crom Estate as well as being a farmer.

David’s late son Noel recalls: "Mum was left on her own, as we grew up, the farm dad bought before he died, was sold and we moved to Crom, where our family lived for four generations. We were basically left with nothing".

"My mother worked night and day seven days a week and knitted".

SEFF acknowledges the sacrifices made by Mrs Johnston which was a regular theme within families where a main breadwinner was taken away in tragic circumstances.

David is also remembered on SEFF's Memorial Quilt.

Our thoughts are with Violet and the entire Johnston family circle today and every day.