Martin Anderson

Martin Anderson was born 22 April 1887 in Minnesota, the youngest of nine children of Andrew (Andreas) and Johanna Anderson. Both born in Norway, Andrew was 63 and Johanna was 64 in 1930. Per the 1900 census in Eureka Township, Andrew immigrated in 1849 (he says 1850 in 1910) and Johanna arrived in 1846. The Andersons were farmers and had a large family.

Something interesting to point out is that on findagrave.com, both Andrew and Johanna have the surname Husevold. However, all of their children used the surname Anderson (which would make sense as their father’s name is Andreas/Andrew). Online trees suggest that Martin’s parents were Andreas Christiansen Anderson who also used the surnames Skjerva or Husevold (1845-1920), and Johanna Aslaksdatter Quammen (1844-1920), who were married in Christiania Lutheran Church in Dakota County in 1869.

Martin registered for the draft in 1918 while a resident of Eureka Township, P.O. Farmington, in Dakota County. He was 31 years old. He served in the U.S. Army’s 62nd Infantry Band as a musician, 2nd clarinet. General Pershing, the leader of the AEF, believed that the infantry bands were key for morale during this war. Infantry bands would play for the soldiers, play in camp and army hospitals to distract from injuries, as well as in French towns and villages to maintain good relationships with the French allies.

After the war, Martin continued to live with his family, living with his oldest brother Gustave in the 1930 Census. Martin died 21 Feb 1945 and is buried in East Christiania Lutheran Cemetery in Lakeville in Dakota County. It does not appear that he married.

Note: No photo was available when Dakota County in the World War was printed. Martin J. Anderson was listed under Farmington servicemen.