

## **Gustave Morris Bartsch**

Gustave Morris Bartsch was born in West St. Paul, MN on April 28, 1895 to parents Adolph Bartsch and Bertha Vasholz Bartsch. They were German immigrants. He was one of seven children. His father was a grocer. Prior to his military service, Bartsch was a farmer and photo engraver at St. Paul Engraving Co. He lived in West St. Paul.

Bartsch was registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. He claimed exemption because he was a farmer, but was nonetheless drafted. He was enlisted officially on February 26, 1918. Bartsch trained at Camp Dodge, Iowa and Camp Custer, Michigan from February to June, 1918. On June 28, 1918, his company embarked from Hoboken, New York on the Siboney (ship name). They arrived in Brest, France on July 12. He probably fought overseas in Gievus, France. He served originally with Company C in the 313th Engineers, 88th Division. Bartsch eventually moved to Company D, 55th Engineers Infantry of the U.S. Army. His rank was Cook and Private. On July 4, 1919, Bartsch arrived back in the U.S. (Brooklyn, NY). Bartsch was mustered out of service on July 11, 1919 at Camp Dodge, Iowa.

After the war, Bartsch married Gladys Irene Kaufer in approximately 1921. He continued his profession as a photo engraver in the 1920s. From 1930 until his death, Bartsch was business partners with his brother Adolph at Bartsch Bros. Grocery. He and Irene had three children: Robert Gustav (b. 1922), Richard David (b. 1924), and William Adolph (b. 1930). Richard served in World War II in the U.S. Navy. Gustave Bartsch died on January 16, 1968. He was buried at Acacia Park Cemetery in Mendota Heights, MN.

