Timo Stoi

Timo Stoi was a Romanian, born Timo Stoianov on 7 October 1900 in Deliblato, Austria (later part of Yugoslavia and today in Serbia) to Stefan and Petra Stoianov or Stojanov. He came to the US in 1912 when he was nine years old. His parents lived in Omaha before moving to Minnesota. He grew up in South St. Paul.

Stoi enlisted in the U.S. Army on 17 July 1920 and served at Ft. Bliss, Texas. He was honorably discharged 8 March 1922 at Fitzsimons General Hospital in Colorado. Fitzsimons was founded by the Army to treat chemical weapons casualties. Descendants say that he was gassed during his War service, which led to tuberculosis and lung disease. Perhaps he was involved in chemical experiments or training. He changed his name to Stoi in 1927 when he became a naturalized US citizen. He was a boxer and was active in promoting affairs of the American Legion and managed athletic programs for that group while he lived in South St. Paul.

Timo Stoi died at age 33 on 6 May 1934 at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Fort Snelling of tuberculosis after undergoing surgery. After services at St. Stefan Romanian Orthodox Church, he was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery with military honors in South St. Paul, MN where he had lived with wife Margaret, whom he married in 1934, and son Joe.