

Leslie Joseph Burch

Leslie Burch was born on February 22, 1897 in Prairie Island, Minnesota (Welch) to Albert Robert Burch (1862-1944) and Anna DeLucia Jackson (1862-1905). Both were born in Wisconsin. Anna became sick early in their marriage with five young children. The family moved to the West Coast with the hope that the climate would improve the situation but unfortunately she died in 1905. The family returned to Hastings, Minnesota where Leslie attended high school. In the 1910 Census, he is a student being raised by his father in Hastings.

He joined the United States Marine Corp in the City of St. Paul in July 1918. He was 21. On July 25, 1918 he reported for duty at Paris Island, South Carolina where he was assigned to Company H, 11th Marine Regiment. There is no record of Leslie serving overseas. He was discharged from Quantico, Virginia on April 16, 1919. He applied for and received a bonus in the amount of \$116.10 for tuition and another \$83.90 for travel.

At home he attended the Minnesota School of Business for two years. He married Dorothy Denesen on July 17, 1925. The couple lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota and had 3 children. Leslie worked as a bookkeeper and then a Supervisor in Government Work. He died March 24, 1971 and is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.

Leslie had an older brother, Ralph William Burch that also served in WWI. He was in the Navy and served on the USS Philadelphia.