

Charles Ogustus “Gus” Christie

Charles “Gus” Christie was born 25 December 1895 in Farmington, Dakota County, Minnesota to William B. Christie (1857-1936) and Josephine “Josie” Sanford (1869-1946). William was a native of Canada and came to the U.S. in 1880; Josie was born in Texas. William and Josie married in 1883 and by 1900 William was managing a farm in Castle Rock Township and they were raising a family of five children, “Ogustus C.” being the fourth eldest. Eventually the couple had ten children, although Overton E. Christie died at just 21 in 1914.

“Gus” Christie registered for the draft on 4 June 1917 at Farmington; he was then working as a freight brakeman for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Co., “H & D Division” at Farmington. He was 21 years old and single.

Christie enlisted 26 February 1918 and was sent to France where he fought at the western front. He was a private first class in the 118th Infantry Regiment, 30th Division, the so-called “Old Hickory Division.” One of the letters he wrote to his parents was published in the local newspaper in 1918, and he sent home an epaulet taken from a captured German officer. Apparently never injured, he returned to the States and was discharged from service on 19 April 1919.

After the War, Christie married Ingeborg Margaret Boe (1901-1988) from Valdres, Norway. “Gus” continued to work as a brakeman for the railroad and eventually they moved to Minneapolis in Hennepin County and raised a family there. By the time of the 1930 census, Gus’ occupation was listed as railroad conductor.

Charles “Gus” Christie died 23 August 1959 in Minneapolis and is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery.