George August Damann

George August Damann was born on November 26, 1897 (or 1896) in Farmington, Minnesota. His parents were August Damann, born in 1849 in Germany, and Sophia Caroline Zehnder, born in 1857 in Minnesota. They were farmers. He had eleven siblings: Adolph (died at age 19), August (died at one year old), Elizabeth, Julius, Frederick, Johanna (Hannah), Gustave, Sophia, Lydia, Earnest, and Emil (died at age 3). Prior to his military service, Damann attended Bradley School in Peoria, Illinois.

Damann registered for the draft on June 1, 1918. He entered military service on September 4, 1918 and was sent to Camp Grant. Damann also trained at the OTC Camp Pike in Arkansas. It is unlikely that Damann ever saw battle overseas. He was mustered out of service on December 7, 1918.

After the war, Damann married Hazel L. Patterson. By 1940, they had two children, Earl and Phyllis, ages 13 and 9. They lived in Kent, Ohio. He worked as a high school teacher, teaching manual training and printing. He also taught at Kent State University. Hazel died in 1950. George’s last job was at Lamson and Sessions Co. in Kent, where he retired from in 1961. Damann was a member of the Rockton Lodge 316 F & AM. He died on July 6, 1977 in Pinellas County, Florida. George Damann was buried in Standing Rock Cemetery in Kent, Ohio. At the time of his death, George had 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Photo source: Dakota County in the World War