

## Andrew Hanson

Andrew Hanson was born on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1894, in Northfield, Minnesota, to Peter and Amelia Hanson. He was one of five children. His siblings were Nels, Henry, August, and Emil Hanson. Their mother, Amelia, died in 1903. Peter remarried in approximately 1905 to Mary. Peter, Amelia, and Mary were all Danish immigrants. The family-owned a farm near Farmington, Minnesota, where Andrew worked prior to joining the Army.

Andrew registered for the WWI draft on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917, at the age of 23. On February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1918, he enlisted into the Army, joining Company "B" 131<sup>st</sup> Infantry, 33<sup>rd</sup> Division. Andrew's obituary posted in the Dakota County Tribune outlines his service during WWI.

"He served alongside the British on the Somme River in July and part of August [1918], and late in September his outfit went over the top at Dead Man's Hill in the battle of the Meuse-Argonne. Several miles beyond Consenvoye on the opposite bank of the Meuse river, Andrew was gassed and wounded in the shoulder not far from where his friend, Clifford Larson of Farmington, was killed. After being hospitalized several months, Andrew returned to America and was discharged in May, 1919.

The war left him in poor health and sometime after returning home he was taken to the Veterans hospital for treatment for arthritis and complications. He was twice confined to the hospital, but the treatments failed to bring permanent relief. Like a true soldier, he bore the intense pain with courage and fortitude."

Dakota County Tribune March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944

After Andrew returned from the war, he continued to work on his father's farm. He does not show up in the 1930 US Census. It is presumed that he was missed while the Census was being taken. On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1934, he married Elsie Zitterberg of Wisconsin, who cared for him for the rest of his life. They did not have any children together. On March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1944, Andrew died at the VA Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from heart complications and arthritis at the age of 49. He is buried in Fort Snelling National Cemetery.



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