

Fred Paul Harder

Fred Harder was born on January 15th, 1896, in Saint Paul, Minnesota. His parents were Fred N. and Sophie R. Harder. His father was born in Ohio, and his mother was born in Germany. Fred grew up with his sisters Myrtle, Ruth, and Catherine at 1044 Winslow Ave, West Saint Paul, Minnesota. Before joining the military, Fred worked as a checker at Farwell Ozman Kirk and Company.

Fred registered for the WWI draft on June 5th, 1917, at the age of 21. He was still living with his parents on Winslow Street when he registered. The next year, on February 26th, 1918, he enlisted into the Army, joining Company "K" 139th Infantry as a Private. On April 25th, 1918, Fred sailed out of Hoboken, New Jersey, for Europe on the RMS Adriatic. He returned almost exactly a year later, sailing out of St. Nazaire, France, on April 13th, 1919. He sailed home on the USS Matsonia with Company "E" 139th Infantry as a Corporal.

Soon after returning from the war, Fred married Irene. The couple lived with his parents on Winslow Street for some time after the wedding. Fred returned to Farwell Ozman Kirk and Company and was working as a wholesale clerk in 1920. By 1930, the couple had bought a house at 977 Stryker Ave in West Saint Paul. Fred had been promoted to District Clerk, and the couple had three daughters, Dorothy, Arlene, and Betty Lou. The family remained on Stryker Avenue, and by 1940, Fred had been promoted to District Manager. Eight years later, in 1948, Irene passed away. Many years later, on June 13th, 1972, at the age of 76, Fred passed away and was buried in Fort Snelling National Cemetery.



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