John H Heinen

John Heinen was born on July 16, 1888 in Hastings, Minnesota to Peter Heinen (1853-1920) and Veronica R Fritz (1860-1926). The family had moved to Rosemount where Peter owned a harness business. John was working in a livery stable when he registered for the draft on June 5, 1917 which is probably why when he enlisted on March 23, 1918 he was assigned to Veterinary Hospital 2. He first trained at Fort Riley, Kansas and was then transferred to Camp Lee, Virginia for further training for overseas service. He left for France from Norfolk, Virginia on the SS Madawaska on October 13, 1918. By the time they arrived in France and got settled in their hospital, the war was over and John was transferred to the Army of Occupation and the #1 Vet Replacement Unit. He returned home on June 12, 1919 from Brest, France on the SS Imperator to Hoboken, New Jersey. He was released on June 31, 1919 as Private First Class.

He returned home and lived with his family in Rosemount. He worked as a machinist in a garage for a number of years. He was married briefly and then moved to St Paul, Minnesota where he worked for the St Paul Glass Company. He died on May 14, 1971 at the age of 71. He is buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

John also had a younger brother, Joseph that served in WWI.