

## Charles Louis McDonald

Louis McDonald was born on June 24, 1896 in Burnsville, Minnesota near Crystal Lake to Charles J McDonald (1864-1934) and Mary Ann Martin McDonald (1862-1925). For most of his life he was known as "Louis". When he registered for the WWI draft on June 5, 1918 in Rosemount, Minnesota he had already been working and living on his own since age 13 at the Brennen Family Farm in Lakeville. In 1918, he was 21 and working as a hired hand for the Herman Erler Farm in Rosemount. He enlisted in the US Navy on August 29, 1918 but did not go overseas. He was discharged on February 26, 1919. He returned to St Paul, Minnesota where his parents now lived. He worked in building construction and was married on September 2, 1925 to Laretta Margaret Kane (1894-1978) in Dakota County. The couple lived in St Paul and in 1933 Louis started working for the Northern Pacific Railway Company as a porter. The couple had three boys. Louis retired from the railroad and received a pension on May 1, 1963. He died in St Paul, Minnesota on April 9, 1985.