William Mathew Sauber

William Sauber was born December 14, 1890 in Lakeville, Minnesota to Matthias Sauber (1862-1950) and Katherine Berres Sauber (1865-1944). Matthias was a farmer and a plumber in the Farmington area. All three of their young sons would serve in WWI. The oldest, William would register for the draft on June 5, 1917 at the age of 26. He was working as a carpenter and single.

He enlisted in the National Army on May 28, 1918 in Hastings. He was first assigned to Company H, 160th Infantry, 40th Division. They trained at Camp Kearny, near San Diego, California. Their unit sailed for France on August 8, 1918 on the SS Nestor from Brooklyn, New York. William was a mechanic. In France, William was reassigned to Company C, 321st, 87th Division. The unit was used as a labor pool. They trained at Liguircke, France until the 12th of September. They saw their first and only engagement the following day at the Meuse Argonne Offensive. It was one of a series of Allied attacks known as the Hundred Days Offensive, which brought the war to an end. They received orders to return home and boarded the USS Manchuria at St Nazaire, France on June 9, 1919. They arrived at Newport News, Virginia on June 20th and William was released from Camp Grant, Illinois on June 27, 1919 as a Mechanic. He was the last of the three brothers to return home.

William married Emma Luilla Knutson (1899-1972) on November 1, 1910 at the age of 29. He was a carpenter until he died just 12 years later on June 3, 1932, at the age of 41 in Lakeville. Emma would remarry and her new husband would be wounded in WWII. The couple had no children. William is buried at St Michael’s Catholic Cemetery in Lakeville, Minnesota.