

## Joseph George Kelnberger



Joseph George Kelnberger was born 9 December 1897 in West St. Paul, Dakota County, Minnesota. He was the son of John Kelnberger (1856-1902) and Adolphine Bock (1855-1918), both Germans born in Austria. They came to the U.S. in 1885 with the eldest children, Johanna/Anna and John; the rest of their eight children were born in Minnesota: Mary, William, Frank, Fredrick, Joseph G., and Clara. Before he died in 1902, John Kelnberger was a salesman at Swift & Company in South St. Paul. In 1900, the family was living at 218 Eaton Street in St. Paul. By 1910, they had moved to 1095 Robert Street in West St. Paul. The father, John, died in 1902, so all of the children who were 16 years or older had jobs to help support the family. Three of the boys served in WWI: Frank, Fred, and Joseph.

Prior to the War, Joseph worked as a clerk for Swift & Co. in South St. Paul. He enlisted in the Infantry section of the U.S. Marine Corps on 7 July 1918 at Paris Island, South Carolina. His mother died in July 1918. A private originally assigned to staff duty, he was reassigned on 2 January 1919 to Pay Office in New York City. He was promoted to private 1<sup>st</sup> class on 22 February 1919. He was mustered out of service on 16 June 1919 in New York City and returned to Minnesota.

At first he stayed with his brother, John, on Robert Street in West St. Paul, where he is found in the 1920 census. He was a timekeeper at a meat packing plant. On 25 August 1923, he married Evelyn Marie Ursula Shields (1900- ), a stenographer, daughter of Eugene Shields and Mary Nichols, in Kings, New York; perhaps they met while he was stationed there. Their son, Joseph George, was born in New York in 1932. Joseph worked as a salesman. In 1942, when he registered for the WWII draft, Joseph and Evelyn lived in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York, and he worked at Scholl Manufacturing Company at 62 West 14<sup>th</sup> Street in New York City.

Joseph Kelnberger died 18 June 1967 in New Rochelle, Westchester County, New York at age 70.