Edward Jacob Niederkorn was born on July 14th, 1891, in Hastings, Dakota County, Minnesota. His father, John Niederkorn, was born in Germany. His mother, Elizabeth Oberst, was born in New York. As a young man, Edward worked as a laborer at a boat house in Hastings. At the time of his draft registration, he was working as an attendant at the state hospital in Hastings.

Edward registered for the draft on June 5th, 1917, at the age of 24. He served with the National Army Air Service, 121st Aero Squadron, as a private 1st class. He was stationed in Love Field, Texas, and worked as part of a training unit there for the duration of the war. He mustered out of service on March 29th, 1919.

After the war, Edward moved to Glendive, Dawson County, Montana, and worked as a cashier in the “light plant industry.” While in Montana, Edward met Marguerite A. Stark. They got married on September 10th, 1920. Edward and Marguerite had three children: Edward, John (who died at birth), and Robert. By 1930, the family had moved back to Edward’s home state of Minnesota and lived in Red Wing, Goodhue County. Edward worked as a business and sales manager for the Northern States Power Company. He was a member of the American Legion, Elks Lodge, and Knights of Columbus. Edward passed away on May 22nd, 1956, in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, at the age of 64. He was laid to rest at Saint Felix Catholic Cemetery in Wabasha, Wabasha County, Minnesota.