

James Brassfield

James Brassfield was born on July 29, 1895 in Macon City, Missouri. His parents were James L. Brassfield Sr. and Ella Van Niman. In 1900, the family lived in Newport, Iowa. By 1910, the family lived in Black Hawk, Iowa. Prior to his military service, James worked as a plumber and steamfitter at the Union Stock Yard. He had completed schooling through 8th grade.

James registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. He was living in South St. Paul at the time. He enlisted on June 24, 1918. James trained at Camp Grant in Illinois. His initial assignment was with Battery A, 332nd F. A., A.E.F. In September of 1918, James arrived in Liverpool, England. Throughout his service overseas, James was stationed in France and Germany. He served with the 3rd Mobile Veterinary Section, 3rd Training Headquarters. On August 15, 1919, James left Brest, France on the Manchuria. His rank was Private. James was mustered out of service at Camp Dodge, Iowa on September 3, 1919.

James married Vivian Frances Harris on June 18, 1918 in Wright County, Minnesota. The couple lived in St. Paul in 1920. He worked again as a steamfitter at Swift & Co in South St. Paul. They had four children together: Vivian, James, Jane, and Ella. By 1930, the family lived with Vivian's family in Monticello, MN. By the 1940s, the family was living in Missouri. James worked as a laborer for the WPA and later for McDonald Construction Company. He died on January 21, 1945 in a car or truck accident. He was just 49 years old. James was buried at El Dorado Springs, Cedar County, Missouri.