

Helmer Bygd

Helmer Bygd was born on July 18, 1892 in Dodge County, Minnesota. On August 7, 1892, he was baptized at Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon, Goodhue County, Minnesota. His parents were Admund Olson Bygd and Johanna Bygd. Helmer had three siblings: Carl, Chatrine, and Thilda. In 1900, the family was living in Ellington, Dodge County, Minnesota. Prior to his military service, Helmer worked as a butter maker for Kiefer Produce Co. in Wausau, Wisconsin. Helmer married a woman named Mabel sometime before 1918. Their home address was in Farmington, Minnesota.

Helmer registered for the draft on June 5, 1917. He was living in Wausau, WI at the time. Helmer served with Company K, 342nd Infantry, 86th Division, 328th Clothing and Bath Unit of the A.E.F. He departed New York on the Minnekahda on September 9, 1918. His rank was Private.

In 1920, Helmer was living with his wife and Carl and Lola Bygd in New Haven, Wisconsin. Helmer and Myrtle's son Kenneth was born around 1924. On April 20, 1929, an article was published in the *St. Cloud Times* that Helmer and Mabel were "motoring" to visit some relatives in Farmington. In 1930, Helmer and family were living in Clearwater, Wright County, Minnesota. In 1931, Helmer was installed as Commander of the Beatty-Humphries Post No. 323 of the American Legion. As of January 1937, Helmer was managing and operating the Clearwater Cooperative Creamery Association, according to the *St. Cloud Times*. In 1942, Helmer and Myrtle were living in Glenville, MN. In 1947, Helmer resigned as buttermaker from the Winona Creamery after three years. Helmer and Myrtle then moved to Glenville, Minnesota to live with their son Kenneth and daughter-in-law. Helmer died on June 18, 1964 in San Diego, California.



Photo source: [Dakota County in the World War](#)