

## **Clarence Ordelle Drake**

Clarence Ordelle Drake was born on July 23, 1897, in Rosemount, Dakota County, MN. His father was Frank Adelbert Drake and his mother was Martha Emily Gilland. He was one of nine children in the family. In 1910, Clarence and his family were living in Inver Grove, Dakota County, where he was a farm laborer.

Clarence registered for the WWI draft in Hastings, Dakota County on August 22, 1918, when he was 21 years old. He was living in South Park at this time. Two months later, he enlisted in the Army on October 22, 1918 in Hastings. He was assigned to train at Camp Cody, NM. He held the rank of Private in Company 11. He was mustered out of the service on June 12, 1919.

In 1920, Clarence was living in South Saint Paul with his parents, and was a laborer in a Tannery. A few years later, Clarence had moved to North Dakota with a younger brother. Here, the brothers traveled through the area grinding feed for their neighbors and operating a threshing machine for the harvest. On September 10, 1923, Clarence married Helen Marie Hanner in Devils Lake, ND. The couple had 13 children, of which 8 daughters and 2 sons lived to adulthood. The couple also adopted a son. In 1925, the family lived in Twin Lake, Benson County, ND. Clarence was a farmer in Sheyenne, Eddy County, ND. He died on December 1, 1987, in New Rockford, North Dakota, at the age of 90, and was buried at Hillside Cemetery, in Oberon, Benson County, ND.